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Lack of plan bad for biz

CONSTRUCTION MITIGATION

City 'dropped the ball' ahead of holidays, says councillor



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

It's "totally unacceptable" that downtown businesses are losing money due to nearby construction with no mitigating plan in place, says one area councillor.

Stores and restaurants surrounding the Nova Centre site have been seeing less foot traffic and a downturn in business for months, but the closure of parts of Prince and all of Market streets to car traffic in the weeks leading up to Christmas hits especially hard.

"It's totally unacceptable," Coun. Wayne Mason said.



Coun. Wayne Mason
METRO FILE

Mason said Thursday. "All businesses are equally important."

Mason said he hoped to avoid this by asking for a report on construction mitigation last January, which was supposed to come back to council in June. It's now been pushed back to the new year.

"The city's really dropped the ball," Mason said.

Without a report to suggest solutions like preventing the developer from closing streets unless in extreme situations for a short time, or having better hoarding walls that cover up dirt and noise from the site, Mason said the city is unprepared to handle the situation.

"There are literally no rules. We have very little ability to control this," Mason said.

Until now, most large developments have gone up in the suburbs where there's more space and parking, Mason said.



JEFF HARPER/METRO

'PUNCH IN THE STOMACH'

Nova Centre construction is impacting business due to road closures, says Lil MacPherson, co-owner of the Wooden Monkey.

She's not alone. **SEE COVERAGE IN metroNEWS**

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City workers deck the massive Christmas Tree at Grand Parade in downtown Halifax on Thursday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Getting into the holiday spirit

Many will be rushing to the malls in HRM on Black Friday and throughout the weekend, but those who want to avoid the craziness can check out these events happening across the Halifax region over the next few days. No shopping bags required.

HALEY RYAN METRO

1 Market madness

Check out crafters markets including the Halifax Lights Holiday Market at Historic Properties from Thursday through Sunday. Others include the Dalplex Market from Friday through Sunday, Dartmouth Makers at 15 King's Wharf Place from Saturday through Sunday, North by Night Market from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday at 2500 Agricola, and the Wintergreen Craft Fair at the World Trade and Convention Centre from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

2 Treetime!

Join Mayor Mike Savage and city councillors for the Halifax Christmas tree-lighting Saturday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Grand Parade — a free, family-friendly event. See Santa Claus, fireworks and a Big Fish performance and join a dance party with Puss in Boots.

3 Meowy Christmas

Dress up your dogs and cats and bring them to Quinpool Road's Pet Parade on Saturday at 1 p.m. Meet in the Halifax Veterinary Hospital parking lot.



A participant in last year's Spryfield Christmas Parade.
JEFF HARPER/METRO

4 Santa Claus Parade

Catch the annual Spryfield Santa Claus Parade at 2 p.m. on Sunday, along Herring Cove Road between the Ultramar and the Spryfield Mall.

5 Museums

Visit the Museum of Natural History to check out its Holiday Village with the Mills Brothers window display as well as the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic's Christmas at Sea events.



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Business is down

ROAD CLOSURES

Construction 'a torpedo' hit on restaurant



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

The owner of a popular Halifax restaurant says the latest hurdle due to nearby construction feels like "a punch in the stomach."

Lil MacPherson, co-owner of The Wooden Monkey, said business has taken a downturn since the development of Nova Centre began a few years ago, but closing access to the eatery is the "next round of torpedo shooting."

Traffic closures began earlier this week on Prince Street and are slated to take five days between Brunswick and Argyle streets, plus 15 days between Brunswick and Grafton.

"We're scared, we're fearful," MacPherson said Thursday about talks with co-owner Christine Bower.

"Closing ... going into the Christmas season is just a punch in the stomach."

Although MacPherson said the restaurant has been a staple in the neighbourhood for years, they've had more than a 25 per cent loss in sales while their bills (including \$22,000 in annual property tax) stay the same.

MacPherson said she's been

even handing out coupons to entice people to come in because they now have to be "creative."

The first day they closed Prince Street down this week, MacPherson said Bower called her at lunch in tears to say "nobody's here."

The "ripple effect" of lost sales means they've cut back on staff hours and farmers that supply the restaurant have also taken a hit, MacPherson said.

The city should step in to compensate those places in danger of closing, MacPherson said, since bars, stores and eateries are what made the area a viable option for the Nova Centre in the first place.

Mayor Mike Savage said Thursday he "hates" to see people losing business and is open to any suggestions, as well as looking at the mitigation report once it's done.

"There are certain things that happen which are inconvenient, but this goes above and beyond that," Savage said.

"We have to figure out what we're going to do about it."

Free parking in Scotia Square or the street would help for those shopping downtown, MacPherson said, or some other tax compensation.

"We're the heartbeat," MacPherson said.

"There's no planning how they're going to ... support and promote small businesses that are already there so they don't create a ghost town."

“There are certain things that happen which are inconvenient, but this goes above and beyond that.”

Mayor Mike Savage



Local businesses, including the Wooden Monkey, are reflected in glass being installed on the Nova Centre in downtown Halifax on Thursday. JEFF HARPER / METRO

+ SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS: PICK UP A PYLON



The logo for HFX Pylon Club, created by Inkwell Boutique. CONTRIBUTED

Some businesses are hoping shoppers grab a pylon when they're downtown.

But instead of picking up the orange traffic cones like those blocking off Market Street for the next couple of weeks around the Nova Centre site, anyone can join the HFX Pylon Club.

"We want to thank our customers who do brave the construction and jump over the pylons and come down," said

Sam Shannon, part-time employee and artist at Inkwell Modern Hand-made Boutique.

Although the closures on Market and Prince streets leading up to the Christmas shopping season make it hard for drivers to access businesses like Inkwell, Shannon said they will be giving out pylon pins to those who come in, and 10 per cent off for sharing the logo on social media.

Places like Argyle Fine

Art, Bikram Yoga, The Loop, and World Tea House have also joined the project, Shannon said, and will be ordering from Mitton's But-tons as well as offering discounts.

"It's the busiest time of year for any retail venue so it's been an ongoing issue," Shannon said.

"We tried to do a fun, light-hearted spin on our situation."

HALEY RYAN/METRO

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AIRPORT

Company set for takeoff

East Coast Lifestyle and The 7 Virtues are set to soon open their stands in the terminal building. This is the first time either company has sold products in an airport.

According to a release, the East Coast Lifestyle kiosk will be located on the departures level between gates 20 and 22 starting Dec. 1 and run for at least the next three months.

"East Coast Lifestyle was born in Halifax so we wanted to make it easier for you to bring a piece of home with you wherever you go," Alex MacLean, CEO & Founder of East Coast Lifestyle,

says in a statement.

"Our new airport location will conveniently allow East Coasters to rep their coast with limited edition apparel and we're excited to make it happen in time for the traveling season."

The 7 Virtues kiosk is located in the main lobby and will operate throughout the holiday season. The fragrance company by Barb Stegemann sources oils from Afghanistan, Haiti and Rwanda.

Stegemann gained national attention when she appeared on the show Dragons' Den.

METRO



Alex MacLean, CEO of East Coast Lifestyle. CONTRIBUTED

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Dressing offers hope for kids

PRINCE'S CHARITIES

Loblaw stores now carry Halifax-grown condiment

Something new is blooming at a few Halifax-area Superstores.

On Thursday, Loblaw Companies Ltd. announced their partnership with Hope Blooms, as part of their commitment to Prince's Charities Canada.

"Being in the Superstores is allowing us to ensure scholarship funds to every one of our youth," Hope Blooms director Jessie Jollymore told a crowd at Barrington Superstore on Thursday.

Hope Blooms is a youth-operated community garden in north-end Halifax. According to a news release, the garden grows more than 900 kilograms of fresh produce each year.

"We got really excited about what they were doing at Hope Blooms," said



Jessie Jollymore and Alvero Wiggins with Hope Blooms members at the Barrington Superstore display. REBECCA DINGWELL/FOR METRO

Mark Boudreau, the director of corporate affairs for Loblaw Atlantic. "We asked them, 'What can we do to help you guys take it to the next level?'"

The partnership means Hope Blooms' fresh herb salad

Being in the Superstores is allowing us to ensure scholarship funds to every one of our youth.

Jessie Jollymore, director of Hope Blooms

dressings will be available at four Atlantic Superstore locations in the Halifax area.

"It's not easy to get your products into Superstore, but these kids blew us away," Boudreau said.

All proceeds from the

dressings will go back to Hope Blooms. In addition, Loblaw will be helping the community group with marketing and promotion training.

"We want to be a true partner, and that means being there long-term," Boudreau said.

Loblaw is also guaranteeing \$10,000 for the products' first six months in stores, which took Jollymore and the young gardeners by surprise at Thursday's announcement.

"I'm just super excited," said Alvero Wiggins, program coordinator at Hope Blooms. "It's been a whirlwind of a time preparing for this."

The salad dressings can be found at the Superstores on Joseph Howe Drive, Barrington Street, Portland Street and in Bedford.

"I just hope that more people recognize our youth for what they're really capable of ... that's what I'm really hoping for going forward," Wiggins said.

"I hope people recognize our community as something great."

ROBBERIES

Popular restaurant attacked



Philip Croucher
Metro | Halifax

There were two attempted robberies in the Halifax area on Wednesday night, including one where someone sprayed a sensory irritant at an employee inside a popular Chinese restaurant.

Around 9:50 p.m., police were called to the House of Mei Mei at 264 Bedford Highway.

Halifax Regional Police say a man went into the restaurant, sprayed a sensory irritant on an employee and then fled.

It's not clear if he got away with any money.

A police dog was brought in to help with the search, but the suspect hasn't been found.

The five-foot-eight man had his face covered and was wearing all black, police say.

About 90 minutes later, police were called to another robbery at the Blue

nose Market on Titus Street in Fairview.

In that incident, police say a man carrying a knife went up to the clerk and demanded money.

"He quickly got frustrated and left empty-handed," a police news release stated.

"He was arrested nearby by patrol officers on Evans Avenue."

Police say a 22-year-old Halifax man is now facing charges and is due in court on Thursday.

POLICE

St. Croix man faces multiple charges

A St. Croix man charged with several firearm-related offences and carrying a weapon, namely a length of 2X4 lumber, in committing an assault will be back in court Nov. 27.

Dashonn Jondell States, 20, was held over in custody Nov. 23 after appearing at a bail hearing in Windsor provincial court. Following a Nov. 24 court appearance, the matters were adjourned for election and plea. States is charged with handling a firearm — a long

rifle — in a careless manner, possessing a long rifle without the necessary licence, failing to comply with his recognizance, being an occupant in a vehicle in which he knew there was a long rifle, failing to comply with his undertaking, assault and carrying a weapon — the 2X4 — in committing an assault. Police say he committed these offences in St. Croix on Nov. 22. States pleaded guilty in September to mischief charges related to the wilful damaging of a woman's vehicle and resisting an

RCMP constable trying to arrest him. These matters have also been adjourned to Nov. 27 for a hearing to set a sentencing date. States committed these offences in Windsor May 29 and Feb. 26. States is also charged with dangerous driving, failure to obey a police officer's demand to exit a vehicle, displaying a number plate issued for another vehicle, driving without insurance and violating motor vehicle regulations by having a smashed windshield.

THE HANTS JOURNAL

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FISHERY

Georges Bank embargo will run to 2022

A moratorium on oil and gas drilling on Georges Bank will be extended until the end of 2022 under legislation tabled by the Nova Scotia government.

Energy Minister Michel Samson says the proposed bill mirrors legislation passed by the federal government in June.

1988

The moratorium on drilling on Georges Bank has been in place since 1988.

Samson says the move is about protecting an area that is important to the province's fishery and overall economy. Located off southwestern Nova Scotia, Georges Bank is home to some of the most productive and sensitive fishing grounds on the East Coast. THE CANADIAN PRESS



The location of the protected Georges Bank. CONTRIBUTED

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Coun. Matt Whitman rides a Segway during a recent event in Halifax. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Standing up for Segways

TRANSPORTATION

Scooters could soon be legal on N.S. roads in a national first

HOW IT WORKS

Under the regulations, drivers would be required to wear helmets and there would be a minimum age of 16 for a driver to operate a Segway or similar vehicle on their own.

After passing a test run, Segways could soon be legal on roads and sidewalks in Nova Scotia, something a supporter of the stand-up motorized scooters hopes will lead to similar breakthroughs across the country.

Nova Scotia's transportation minister is among those who have taken the scooters for a spin, and he believes they can safely share the road.

"Once you get the hang of it they are pretty safe and they are certainly a lot of fun," Geoff MacLellan said Thursday before introducing legislation that would make the province the first to include self-balanced electric scooters in its Motor Vehicle Act.

Max Rastelli, owner of Segway Nova Scotia in Halifax, said he believes other provinces and jurisdictions in Canada will take notice.

"It just takes that one to show the leadership and take that initiative," said Rastelli. "I hope provinces like Ontario and Alberta that have been trying for years to get this through, hopefully things can move a little quicker for them."

Rastelli said the apparent breakthrough for Segway users in Nova Scotia comes because of the data and public feedback

that was gathered from a pilot program that was launched by the province in 2014.

"That feedback was just critical in what resulted here," he said.

MacLellan said the pilot program allowed companies in Halifax, Truro and Chester to test and evaluate the use of the vehicles on the province's streets and sidewalks.

"The results of the pilot project on Segways were positive, with no negative impact on the safety of all road users," he said.

MacLellan said the evaluation included surveys of Segway riders and other road users, incident reporting forms and feedback from police and municipalities.

The department released preliminary results of 850 road user surveys that indicated 93 per cent of the pedestrians who were asked did not have a negative experience when encountering Segways. Another 420 rider surveys indicated 94 per cent felt safe driving Segways, while two per cent — seven respondents — reported collisions, primarily with the Segway in front of them.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scuba diver comes up with century-old Keith's

BEER

Bottle marks puts its origin in late 1800s England

An amateur scuba diver has recovered a bottle from the bottom of Halifax harbour that could contain beer that is more than a century old.

And there's a possibility, though slim, the ancient brew could be drinkable.

After Jon Crouse pulled the green glass bottle from the billowing silt beneath three metres of 10 C water, he discovered its cork was intact and it was half full of a cloudy, sudsy liquid.

The bottle also has a thick lip at the top of its neck.

"I knew that was the hallmark of an old bottle," Crouse said in an interview while taking a break from his job at a Halifax-area warehouse.



Jon Crouse displays a century-old beer bottle at home in Lower Sackville, N.S. on Thursday. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ CLEANSING

A solution to salt

For now, Jon Crouse's cherished bottle is being kept inside his toilet tank, where he hopes the fresh flushes of cold water will draw sea salt from the cork, which will crumble if left to dry in the open air.

"This Keith's bottle will be the highlight of my collection," says Crouse. "I was told by the head guy at Keith's that it probably wouldn't be advisable to (drink from it). But there's a part of me that's curious." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crouse later spotted a logo on the side of the cork, which can be seen through the side of the bottle's neck. It says, "A. Keith & Son Brewery," the previous name of the now famous Halifax-based Alexander Keith's brewing company, which opened in the early 1820s.

As well, markings on the bottom of the well-preserved bottle indicate it was made in England in the late 1800s by Nuttall & Co., which routinely exported this type of bottle for use in Canada until 1890, Crouse says.

Will he drink from the bottle?

"Absolutely not," he says,



I think I would be willing to try it. If it is straight-up beer from back then, everything we know says that it should be drinkable.

Jon Crouse

adding that he would like to preserve the cork. "I definitely think there's beer in it, but I think it's diluted with a bit of sea water from the harbour."

Still, if the murky fluids circulating at the harbour's bottom haven't penetrated the cork, the beer inside would be drinkable, says Chris Reynolds, co-owner of Stillwell, a local bar devoted

to craft beer.

The alcohol in the beer and the anti-microbial nature of the hops used to make the brew would protect it from poisonous pathogens, he says.

"Ninety-nine per cent of beer gets stale, but it doesn't become poisonous," Reynolds says.

But in all likelihood, it would taste awful.

Beer recovered from long-ago shipwrecks has been served up before — to unenthusiastic reviews, Reynolds says. As well, certain sour beers and those with high alcohol content are often good candidates for cellar aging.

But before he quaffs an ounce, Reynolds says he would have the beer tested in a lab to discern how Alexander Keith was brewing his suds during the 1800s.

"Actually having a liquid sample — rather than a recipe — can better tell us what was going on in terms of brewing."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCHOOL BOARD

Chair elected



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

Melinda Daye has been re-elected as chair of the Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB), while Dave Wright was named vice-chair.

Both Wright and Daye were elected as part of the HRSB regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening.

Daye, the board's African-Nova Scotian representative, has served as chair since December 2014.

Wright, who represents Lower, Middle and Upper Sackville-Beaver Bank and Lucasville, had previously served as vice-chair in 2013-2014.

The board also elected five members to its audit committee. Those members include Nancy Jakeman, Christy Linders, Bridget Boutilier, Melinda Daye and Dave Wright.

The next regular board meeting takes place on Dec. 16 at 6 p.m. at the HRSB office at 33 Spectacle Lake Drive in Burnside.

The HRSB serves about 48,000 students in 136 schools throughout the Halifax municipality.



IN BRIEF

Affordable housing conference next week

A two-day conference to address affordable housing challenges in Halifax is set for next Monday and Tuesday.

The conference kicks off at 8:30 a.m. Monday at the Halifax Central Library on Spring Garden Road, with introductions from Halifax Mayor Mike Savage, Housing Nova Scotia CEO Dan Troke, United Way Halifax CEO Sara Napier and others.

METRO STAFF

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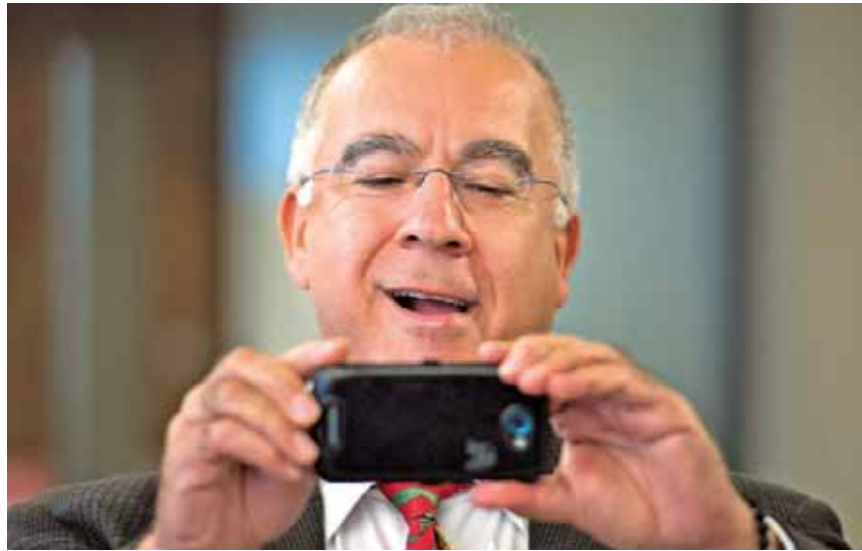
Successful appeal of P.E.I. businessman's conviction

A Prince Edward Island businessman, convicted of sexually assaulting a teenaged girl in the Halifax area more than 20 years ago, has successfully appealed the conviction and, on Thursday, won the right to a new trial.

Stephen Nicholas Taweel of Charlottetown was found guilty in February 2014 of sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl in 1991 and was sentenced to 28 months in prison.

A Nova Scotia Court of Appeal ruling released Thursday stated that the trial judge inappropriately used accounts from a series of alleged incidents in P.E.I. to discredit Taweel's testimony regarding the incident in Nova Scotia for which he was charged.

"In my respectful view, the trial judge committed a serious, reversible error in the use he made of the P.E.I. evidence,"



Stephen Nicholas Taweel awaits sentencing at Supreme Court. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

wrote Justice Jamie Saunders in the decision.

"That is reason enough to set aside the verdict and order a new trial."

The ruling describes how Taweel and the complainant met on Stanhope Beach, P.E.I. in the summer of 1991 and

The trial judge committed a serious reversible error.

Justice Jamie Saunders

engaged in sexual activity on several separate occasions.

Taweel was charged for an alleged incident involving the complainant a few months later in Dartmouth.

Saunders stated that had he been the trial judge, the evidence surrounding the alleged

incidents in P.E.I. would never have been submitted for evidence in the first place.

He also noted that the transcript of Taweel's direct and cross-examinations surrounding events in P.E.I. fills 95 pages, but testimony surrounding the events in Dartmouth takes up only 37 pages.

"Whatever was said to have occurred in Dartmouth was totally eclipsed by the testimony describing their encounters at Stanhope Beach," wrote Saunders in the ruling.

"P.E.I. became the story; Nova Scotia was relegated to a footnote."

Taweel, 57, is the president of Taweel Developments and Taweel Construction, and also served as chairman of the Charlottetown Downtown Residents Association.

During his trial, Taweel denied touching the girl in Dartmouth, testifying that they did engage in consensual sexual activity earlier that year, soon after they first met in P.E.I.

The legal age of consent at the time was 14, though Taweel said in court the girl had told him she was 16 years old. THE CANADIAN PRESS

GERALD RUSHTON

Murder accused gets new lawyer

A man who dismissed his lawyer just before being tried on two counts of first-degree murder has found a new lawyer.

Luke Craggs will represent Gerald Ashley Rushton, who is accused of killing his common-law wife and her daughter.

The bodies of Elizabeth MacPherson, 53, and Brittany MacPherson, 24, were both found on Dec. 27, 2013, inside a home near Bible Hill, N.S.

Rushton's five-week jury trial was scheduled to begin Oct. 26 in Nova Scotia Supreme Court in Halifax.

Rushton informed the court that he had dismissed his lawyer on Oct. 27, after he had pleaded not guilty and just before the first witnesses were to testify.

A pre-trial conference has been scheduled for Dec. 14. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Devonshire Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements

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This corridor is being considered for new 1.3 km bicycle lanes that would connect Niobi Gate (Halifax Shipyard entrance) and Isleville Street. The project would also improve walkability, and include some minor changes to on-street parking. Join us at the Open House to learn more about this project and provide your views.

Thursday, December 3, 2015
7 – 8:30 p.m.

Needham Centre Multi-Purpose Room
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halifax.ca/cycling

HALIFAX

RCMP

Incident is no small potatoes

Pictou County RCMP is investigating an incident involving a piece of metal found in a potato.

On Nov. 20, a Pictou County resident discovered the affected potato in a 20-pound bag of Country Magic white potatoes.

The bag of potatoes had been purchased from Sobeys in New Glasgow.

The metal appears to be a brad nail, of the type used in a brad nailer or nail gun.

No one was injured during this incident and this is the only incident of this type re-

ported to police in this area at this time.

The investigation into this matter continues.

If anyone has any information pertaining to this incident, they are asked to contact Pictou County RCMP at (902) 485-4333, or Crime Stoppers. TO MEDIA

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GRAND PARADE WORKERS REMOVE FLAGPOLE FOR SAFETY REASONS Workers cut the old flagpole in the middle of Grand Parade into pieces after removing it Thursday. The pole had to be removed for safety reasons after it had been determined that the structure had deteriorated over time. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Families happy for new homes

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Town of Kentville donated land for the build

There was hardly a dry eye outside of the house as two local families received the keys to their new Habitat for Humanity homes on Thursday.

For Chris Manley and Katie Pegg, parents of three children between the ages of 10 months and five years old, the key presentation was a life-altering event.

"It is a new life. It's going to change our lives forever," said Pegg, who profusely thanked all of the volunteers involved with the build. "It's amazing."

The families were required to put in at least 500 hours of sweat equity to help Annapolis Valley Habitat for Humanity chapter volunteers handling the construction of the duplex in North Kentville.

Pegg's eyes filled with tears as she watched her young daughters hop around in the bright, spacious common area that would soon be filled with their belongings.

To Pegg's delight, the move means no more fuss-

ing with carpet flooring.

"I never thought I would say it, but I can't wait to sweep and scrub the floors," she joked.

The Town of Kentville donated the parcel of land for the Habitat for Humanity build.

Speaking on behalf of the town prior to the presentation of the keys, Mayor Dave Corkum said it was an honour to be able to support the project by contributing land with an estimated worth of about \$35,000.



It means a lot ... We're in a small apartment right now. We share a room with the baby and the girls share a room.

Katie Pegg

"I see the smiles on their faces," he said, looking at the new homeowners. "They can't wait to enjoy their new home and I wish them all the best."

Shane and Carla Kelly, who will live in the other half of the duplex with three daughters between the ages of 11 and 19, are

FIVE THINGS

ABOUT HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

1. Families for Habitat for Humanity Homes are selected based on need and their ability to repay a mortgage with no down payment and no interest.
2. Habitat for Humanity came to Nova Scotia in 1992.
3. The organization has built 45 homes throughout the province since its inception.
4. Habitat aims to help low income families own their own homes.
5. The builds are made possible by dedicated volunteers, sponsors and community partners.

looking forward to the stability that comes with owning a home.

"It will just give us security to know that this is it - there won't be anywhere else," said Carla Kelly.

"No more moves," Shane Kelly added. "No more moves."

TC MEDIA

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YARMOUTH COUNTY

Family blessed to be alive after blaze

Within five minutes of discovery, a small flame grew into an inferno that nearly claimed four lives in a Richmond Road home on Nov. 19.

Jesse quickly found the source — a built-in bathroom wall heater from which he could see a “coffee-cup-sized” flame.

He hauled a tote-box containing three kittens out of the bathroom and hollered for the other family members — his

mother Nathalie and sister Jamie — to get out of the house.

He ran to get a pot from the kitchen to extinguish the flame but by then the bathroom was fully engulfed.

Meanwhile, Nathalie was stumbling about in the smoke and heat to make sure her daughter had escaped.

Jamie had already run outside, pantless, with her mother's Old English sheepdog, Ollie, by her side and her cat Max

in her arms.

Jesse, who is now coping with second-degree burns over 60 per cent of his back, ripped the side of the bedroom window off and told his mother to crawl through.

Three dogs and one cat perished in the fire. Another cat, Calypso, is still missing — a white fluffy female with a calico tail, one green eye and one blue eye.

The home was not insured

FUNDRAISER

A GoFundMe campaign raised \$5,000 as of Thursday for the family.

and the family is temporarily living in Nathalie's mother's two-bedroom home.

Many people and businesses in the region have been collecting donations and holding fundraisers. THE YARMOUTH VAGUARD



Digger pictured shortly after his surgery in October. His injuries included a mangled back paw that was crushed during the demolition of a church. TC MEDIA

Kitten pulled from rubble now thriving

ANIMAL RESCUE

Group helps mend fracture; soon ready for adoptive care

A once badly injured kitten discovered in the debris of a demolished church in Nova Scotia is now jumping and playing at a nearby home thanks to the efforts of a local animal care group.

When the feral kitten was discovered on Oct. 12 — squirming in the mud and rubble — it was a pitiful sight. It was covered in filth and was seriously hurt, suffering from a spiral fracture of his right leg.

Its injuries included a mangled back paw that had been crushed during the demolition.

It was fortunate to be alive though. A dead kitten had been discovered within the building debris in Barrington

a few days before.

Despite the kitten's serious injuries, members of Animals in Need in Woods Harbour made the choice to try to save its life and began raising money for veterinary care.

After undergoing surgery, the kitten was brought to a volunteer's home to recover. And there it healed; thrived even.

“He’s climbing everywhere,” said volunteer Brandi Nickerson, who has looked after “Digger” since his treatment was complete. “His leg healed much faster than we expected.”

Nickerson says Digger is a lot like most kittens — rambunctious and playful. The only reminder of his ordeal is a slight limp, which she says doesn’t seem to slow him down.

In a few weeks, Nickerson will say goodbye to the little guy and wish him well with a new adoptive family.

TC MEDIA

He’s climbing everywhere.... His leg healed much faster than we expected.

Volunteer Brandi Nickerson


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RON HYNES

Cancer 'inevitable symptom' of musician's drug addiction

Joel Hynes, nephew of the recently deceased singer-songwriter Ron Hynes of Newfoundland, has written a piece on his Facebook page about his late uncle and his addictions.

"Personally, I've never experienced such bottomless grief and my heart goes out to all his many loved ones — family, friends and admirers of his music and enigmatic character," Joel writes.

Besides thanking people for their expressions of support and grief, Joel writes about his uncle's battle with addiction.

"Yes he died of cancer, but cancer was a seemingly inevitable symptom of the much darker, much more aggressive, hungrier 'disease' of addiction. Ron died with next to nothing



Joel Hynes at his uncle's funeral on Monday. TC MEDIA

left, emotionally estranged from those who tried their best to reach him, materially destitute, spiritually adrift, physically shattered.

Ron died with next to nothing left, emotionally estranged from those who tried their best to reach him, materially destitute, spiritually adrift, physically shattered.

Nephew Joel Hynes

"It's was beyond shocking how much he resembled his father on his deathbed. Except my grandfather was 92 years old and, for all that, grandfather had a bit more light in his eyes."

Joel says he wrote the Facebook post out of "a sense of duty to offer up a hard truth that's being downplayed or overlooked in all this — the reality of what his battle has been these past years."

Joel says Ron stayed an addict until the day he died and that's what killed him.

"And in the end he choose drugs over everything and everyone he ever loved. And he let himself die. And that's the hard truth."

Joel then describes a province that is in need of help, one that is seeing a spike in addictions that is married to a spike in money.

Joel finishes his piece by hoping his uncle Ron can leave a legacy beyond his music.

"But most of all I hope there's a lesson, and some positive, lasting change that can come of his tragic, senseless, untimely passing." TC MEDIA



Emma Fitzgerald, author of *Hand Drawn Halifax*, works with kids from the Halifax Early Childhood School on Thursday to draw what they like about their neighbourhood. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Bringing creative learning to kids

ART

Artist guides preschoolers in drawing local sights

Rebecca Dingwell
For Metro | Halifax

Children at Halifax Early Childhood School could be heard chattering with excitement as they were told it was time for art.

About 10 kids, all preschool-aged, were guided into a carpeted room where Emma Fitzgerald was waiting for them. The artist showed up to help the kids draw their favourite things in Halifax.

"This (visit) was a special request from one of the

moms," said Fitzgerald, who recently published her first book: *Hand Drawn Halifax*.

"Because she had bought some of my art and I know she herself is an artist, I wanted to help promote her preschool."

As Fitzgerald showed the young students a few of her own drawings, they were eager to voice their opinion about each place — from Halifax Harbour to the grain elevator in the south end.

"They're obviously doing a great job here promoting creative, active learning," said Fitzgerald.

From there, the kids took their own markers to paper. They drew winding roads, pink buildings and structures with circular windows.

School director Sara Lordly said they get the kids to do creative activities on a regu-

66

With children this age, we're really trying to get involved with things in their community.

Sara Lordly

lar basis, so meeting Fitzgerald was a great opportunity for them.

"It's a way of them expressing themselves," said Lordly. "Everyone does an activity at their own developmental level."

Lordly added that art is a big part of the children's lives, and focusing on local places gives it some added benefit.

HARBOUR

Wharf negotiations in limbo

The future of the battered community wharf is yet to be determined.

A non-profit community group dubbed the Scott's Bay Harbour Development Committee was formed last year to enter into negotiations with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the federal agency in the process of divesting the property.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada spokesman Stephen Bornais listed the "low level of commercial fishing activity" and

the close proximity to other Small Craft Harbours facilities as two factors that led to the divestiture process.

"Discussions are ongoing with a local non-profit organization regarding the transfer of this wharf, the details of which are confidential until negotiations are completed," said Bornais.

Harbour development committee spokesman Blair Steele said negotiations appear to be at a standstill following discus-

+ MORE DETAILS

The middle section of the wharf was washed away with crashing tides that came with post-tropical storm Arthur in July 2014.

sions about how much the federal department is willing to put into the site before transferring ownership to the non-profit group. TC MEDIA

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Malta a 'training camp' for Paris climate talks

ENVIRONMENT

But India takes a pass on this year's meeting of 53 countries

Leaders of 53 Commonwealth countries are grappling with their own negotiations on addressing climate change in what Canada's foreign affairs minister calls a "training camp" for next week's United Nations conference in France.

"You have the world in 53 nations here," Stéphane Dion said Thursday shortly after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau arrived in Malta for the three-day summit of Commonwealth heads of government.

"And the debates we have had since I came yesterday are very, let's say, lively. I'm sure they will be repeated in the next two weeks in Paris."

French President Francois Hollande is to make an extraordinary address to the leaders here Friday in what appears to be the first appearance by a French head of state at the biennial Commonwealth meeting — a gathering of countries formerly under British rule.

Hollande will arrive from Russia, where he was seeking



Foreign Affairs Minister Stéphane Dion speaks with the media ahead of the Commonwealths Heads of Government meeting, on Thursday in Valletta, Malta. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

to secure a common front in the military fight against Islamic militants. It seems likely he'll plumb that theme with the Commonwealth countries as well, but the reason for his visit is to rally support for an international climate agreement.

Dion's characterization of "lively" Commonwealth climate talks hints at the challenge ahead.

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the leader of the most populous Commonwealth country with an exponentially growing appetite for coal-fired electricity generation, is taking a pass on this year's Commonwealth meeting amid concerns that the developing subcontinent poses a major obstacle to a comprehensive climate deal.

India's "coal minister" Piyush Goyal is on record saying the world's third-largest producer of greenhouse gases won't be constrained by emissions limits when developed countries



The debates we have had since I arrived are very, let's say, lively. I'm sure they will be repeated in the next two weeks in Paris.

Foreign Affairs Minister Stéphane Dion

have spent the past century pouring carbon into the Earth's atmosphere.

Meanwhile, tiny Tuvalu — an archipelago of low-lying islands in the South Pacific — is in danger of being submerged by rising sea levels due to global warming.

Negotiating the contradictions within the Commonwealth group of countries, said Dion, is "a very helpful training

camp for Paris."

He maintains that, while negotiations will be "intense," the two-week-long COP21 conference will end with "a unanimous, robust agreement that will be a step in the right direction to fight climate change."

Trudeau arrived in Valletta after a stop in London with the goal of rallying Commonwealth support for a climate deal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

REFUGEE RELIEF

Feds give \$100M to UN

The Liberal government's long-awaited \$100 million contribution to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to help fleeing Syrians is destined for a half-empty international aid bucket.

The UN refugee agency has only raised 45 per cent of the \$4.5 billion it sought for 2015 to assist the 4.3 million refugees who have fled Syria for Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan and Iraq, according to its latest statistics.

Canada's contribution, announced Thursday, fulfils a Liberal campaign promise from the federal election, a contribution that includes \$10 million for the UN refugee agency to help it select eligible Syrians for settlement in Canada over the next few months.

"Canada is coming out very strongly, not only with this exceptional program of resettling the 25,000 Syrian refugees, but the financial support to UNHCR is absolutely crucial," Furio de Angelis, the UN agency's Ottawa representative, told The Canadian Press.

"Unfortunately our programs are underfunded, and not only UNHCR programs but in general humanitarian programs (are) underfunded."

Government officials in the newly re-named Global Affairs Department acknowledged the vast international funding shortcoming, but said Canada was doing its part because it was still among the top 10 international donors.

International Development Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau said the government will move quickly to disburse the funds that it has already announced, but was noncommittal about whether more might be pledged in the future.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ AIR WAR

A senior Trudeau adviser briefing reporters on the flight to Malta under agreement not to be named, said Cameron did not pressure Trudeau to reconsider his CF-18 decision when the two prime ministers met in London on Wednesday evening.

In fact, the adviser said, not a single world leader has questioned Canada's pending withdrawal from the air war during the last two weeks of fevered international summitry.

INTERVIEW

Trudeau issues retort to Tory partisans

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has used an interview with an influential BBC current affairs show in London to issue his most pungent retort yet to his Canadian detractors.

Trudeau, 43, endured more than two years of Conservative party attack ads declaring him "just not ready" before sweeping prime minister Stephen Harper from power in last month's federal election.

Asked by BBC television's NewsNight program about his famous family name, Trudeau didn't deny that having had

his father Pierre Trudeau lead the country for almost 16 years opened some doors.

"I think the way I was raised was that I have to work two or three times as hard as anyone else to walk through that door now that it's open," he said.

Trudeau then delivered a sharp retort that could be seen as a direct shot at Harper and other Conservative partisans.

"There's an awful lot of people who sort of shrugged and said he has nothing but a name to go on and found themselves slightly bewildered as I

left them in the dust."

Trudeau told the BBC that this year's federal election campaign showed the momentary appeal of divisive policy stances.

"But when you get right down to it, when citizens take a long hard look in the ballot box at actually voting against your neighbours, against someone who's different from you — in pluralistic societies like we have it becomes very difficult to sustain the hatred or the fear of the shopkeeper down the street or your colleague two cubicles over," said Trudeau. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Justin Trudeau
THE CANADIAN PRESS

HEALTH CARE

Doctors get ready for Syrian refugees

When Syrian refugees begin arriving in Canada in the coming weeks, one of the top priorities will be getting them basic health care — something most migrants will have gone without while living in makeshift camps far from home, sometimes for years.

"I think this group — and I think it's true of all refugees, but perhaps more so for the Syrians — what they need is really good primary care," said Dr. Meb Rashid, medical direc-

tor of the Crossroads clinic at Women's College Hospital in Toronto, which specializes in immigrant health.

Crossroads is one of several clinics that will provide health services to Syrian refugees who come to Toronto, which could take in thousands of migrants over the next few months.

"We're anticipating a fairly significant surge for our clinics starting relatively quickly after arrival," said Rashid.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Clothier accused of appropriation

FASHION

Design stolen off shaman's parka: Woman from Nunavut

Salome Awa says she was furious to discover that a U.K. fashion label had unveiled a sweatshirt with a design that looks nearly identical to one created by her great-grandfather.

But more than anger, the Nunavut woman said she felt shocked that her ancestor's unique design had been taken without permission.

"I went through all the garments and there it was: my great-grandfather's garment, designed exactly the same way as he envisioned," Awa, a CBC Nunavut morning show producer, told the Star in a telephone interview on Thursday morning.

"I was shocked, actually, because it's sacred."

Her great-grandfather was a shaman, Awa explained. He had asked his wife to make a unique parka with hands on the front to protect him from someone who might try to push him into the ocean and drown him.

Danish explorer Knud Rasmussen took a photo of her great-grandfather in the parka during his travels and visits with Inuit families in Canada's Arctic in the 1920s, Awa said.

The photo, which dates back to 1922, was published in the book *Northern Voices: Inuit Writing in English*.

"To wear it (the design) is almost like (a) mockery of my great-grandfather's spiritual well-being," Awa said. "There's no other garment like it anywhere else in this world."

London-based label KTZ did



A model walks the runway during the KTZ show on January 11, in London, England. Inset: The design from which the KTZ sweater was taken, according to Nunavut's Salome Awa.

GETTY IMAGES; INSET: MYSTIC SEAPORT PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTION/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

not respond to Torstar News Service's request for comment.

KTZ unveiled the sweater as part of its Fall 2015 men's collection and the company was selling the "shaman toweling sweatshirt" online for about \$845 Cdn. Toronto-based shop CNTRBND is also selling it for \$925.

KTZ says its clothes are known for their "raw energy and contemporary urban edge, but also for embracing ethnographic references and multiculturalism."

But the company has been accused of appropriating Indigenous designs in the past. Last year, Northern Cheyenne/Crow designer Bethany Yellowtail accused KTZ of using her designs without permission.

She told the Star she contacted an intellectual property lawyer about possible legal action, but that she would discuss the issue with her family members before making any decisions.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

sudden "one punch" assaults, all leading to unsuspecting victims being knocked unconscious and suffering serious injuries. Three of the victims have died.

"This could happen to you or me walking down the street," said Vancouver police spokesman Const. Brian Montague. "We do have individuals that come into the city that are looking for trouble, looking to get into a fight, and unfortunately this is the result sometimes."

"As a victim, it's hard to say to people how to avoid a situa-

tion like this. Our plea is for those making a conscious decision to put their hand into a fist and take a swing. It will cause life-altering injuries or death. And (the suspects') lives will be changed as well. We will arrest them and they will find themselves in court."

The stunning public warning comes after a 34-year-old man was brutally assaulted while walking home with his wife after attending a comedy show in the early morning hours of Sunday, Oct. 25.

EMPEROR HAUTE COUTURE

Woman offered \$12K for Harper painting

When former bureaucrat Danielle Potvin first laid eyes on Stephen Harper's completely nude body, she knew she had to take him home.

A painting of him, that is.

"It's the best piece of fine art in Canada," said Potvin.

She describes it as "audacious" and "so interesting."

"It's such a strong image."

The piece shows a relaxed Harper lounging, with a discreet smile, on a chaise surrounded by a group of suited men and single woman, who is seen handing him what can only be assumed to be a cup of Tim Hortons coffee.

And now it's on sale — just in time for the holiday season.

Emperor Haute Couture, as it's called, made headlines in 2012 when artist Margaret Sutherland first sold it to Potvin.

Potvin originally bought the

painting for \$5,750. Now she's being offered upwards of \$12,000 for the piece.

She's even received a call from someone in Nebraska looking to get their hands on it.

"People know this painting will be worth a lot more in a few years," said Potvin.

She originally listed the artwork on Kijiji for \$8,800, but is now in the middle of an online bidding war with collectors from across the country.

Potvin would preferably like it to move into an art museum because she "wants Canadians to see it." But she hasn't received any offers.

She's decided to sell the painting as a way to fund her home renovation project, which will cost her around \$40,000.

She says she'll make a decision by Nov. 29.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

“It's the best piece of fine art in Canada.”
Danielle Potvin



Artist Margaret Sutherland, left, and Danielle Potvin. This nude painting of Stephen Harper, titled *Emperor Haute Couture*, was originally sold to Potvin for \$5,750 in 2012.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Quebec rejects Ottawa's request to put right-to-die legislation on hold

Quebec will forge ahead with the province's right-to-die law despite a request from Ottawa to put it on hold. The health and justice ministers said Thursday the law will still enter into effect on Dec. 10, with the outcome of a legal challenge against Bill 52 the only possible obstacle. The legislation, which was passed in 2014, would allow terminally ill patients to end their lives with medical help. The Supreme Court of Canada ruled last February that Canadians with unbearable and irremediable suffering could be eligible to end their lives with a doctor's aid, but the justices stayed their decision until Feb. 6, 2016, to give Parliament time to replace the existing law if it so chooses.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's Miss World barred from entering China

Canada's Miss World contestant says she was barred Thursday from entering China to take part in this year's pageant because of her outspoken views on human rights abuses in the communist country.

Anastasia Lin, who was born in China and went to high school in the Vancouver area, said in a statement on her Facebook page that she was unable to board her connecting flight from Hong Kong to the Chinese resort city of Sanya, where the Miss World final is taking place Dec. 19.

THANDI FLETCHER/METRO

VIOLENCE

String of victims face injury after 'one punch' assaults



Matt Kieltka
Metro | Vancouver

A Vancouver-area man has suffered life-altering injuries and has been in hospital for a month after being sucker punched in the city's entertainment district.

And police — in a rare public plea made Thursday — say he's far from the only victim.

So far this year, Vancouver police have responded to 10

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*Details Inside

Locally Owned

Russia slaps Turkey with trade sanctions

RETALIATION

Dispute over downed plane intensifies

A tug-of-war over a Russian warplane shot down by a Turkish fighter jet at the border with Syria escalated Thursday, with Moscow drafting a slew of economic sanctions against Turkey and the Turkish president saying on a defiant note that his military is ready to do the same if another air intrusion happens.

The spat reflected a clash of ambitions of two strongman leaders, neither of whom appeared willing to back down and search for a compromise.

Turkey shot down the Russian Su-24 military jet on Tuesday, insisting it had violated its airspace despite repeated warnings. The incident marked the first time in half a century when a NATO member shot down a Russian plane, raising the threat of a military confrontation between the al-

+ RECORDINGS

Turkey has released audio recordings of what it says are the Turkish military's repeated warnings to the pilot of a Russian bomber before it was shot down at the border with Syria — audio that grows increasingly more agitated.

A Russian airman who survived the shoot-down denied veering into Turkey's airspace "even for a single second." Turkey insists the plane was in its airspace for 17 seconds.

liance and Moscow.

Russia's President Vladimir Putin denounced the Turkish action as a "treacherous stab in the back," and insisted that the plane was downed over the Syrian territory in violation of the international law.

"Until that moment, we haven't heard a clear apology from Turkey's top political leadership, or an offer to

compensate for the damage or a promise to punish the criminals who committed that crime," he said in the Kremlin while receiving credentials from several ambassadors. "It gives an impression that the Turkish leadership is deliberately driving the Russian-Turkish relations into a deadlock, and we regret that."

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was in no mood to apologize, and warned that Ankara would act in the same way in case of another intrusion.

"Faced with the same violation today, Turkey would give the same response," Erdogan said. "It's the country that carried out the violation which should question itself and take measures to prevent it from happening again, not the country that was subjected to a violation."

Erdogan said Turkey had not specifically targeted Russia when it shot down the plane, saying it was "an automatic response" in line with its rules of engagement. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



GREECE TENSION MOUNTS AT NORTHERN BORDER A man kneels before a Macedonian police officer in an effort to cross the border, near the northern Greek village of Idomeni, Thursday. Scores of migrants stranded at Greece's northern border have clashed with police while trying to force their way into Macedonia. GIANNIS PAPANIKOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARIS ATTACKS

Citizens still anxious: Experts

At a Paris train station, the zap of a pigeon getting electrocuted on the tracks is enough to send some jittery people scurrying for cover.

And in the aftermath of the devastating Nov. 13 attacks on Paris, the centre of Brussels has often been deserted as armed soldiers patrol tourist sites amid repeated government warnings that a terrorist attack is "serious and imminent."

Some experts say it will take months for Europeans to psychologically adapt to life after the Paris attacks and warn that some government measures intended to reassure people may backfire, creating instead the impression of cities under siege.



They look like bad guys with their faces all covered even if they are maybe very nice.

Lotte Achterberg on the armed soldiers in Brussels

"We go about our daily lives and every so often they're punctuated by something outrageous like a terrorist attack on an average Friday night," said Dr. David Purves of the British Psychological Society. "After that shock, something that is highly statistic-

ally unusual may suddenly feel much more likely to happen."

Purves said measures meant to reassure people, like machine-gun-toting soldiers and closed subways, might actually feel like the opposite.

"In a time of uncertainty, we may interpret these signs of safety instead as reasons to be fearful, like why would we need armed soldiers unless there was danger?"

Belgian university student Lotte Achterberg said she could certainly do without the now-ubiquitous soldiers guarding Brussels. "It's not a nice feeling to see them everywhere with their big guns," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED STATES

Embrace 'generosity': Obama

President Barack Obama appealed anew for acceptance of Syrian refugees, saying "so much of our greatness comes from our generosity."

In his weekly radio address broadcast Thursday, Obama noted his commitment to accept an additional 10,000 Syrian refugees this year and argued that the policy is in keeping with U.S. tradition.

Obama compared Syrian refugees to the first Pilgrims who arrived in present-day Massachusetts on the Mayflower ship in 1620. Many of them separatists from the Church of England, the Pilgrims have come to symbolize the quest for religious freedom in America.

He said he has been "touched by the generosity of Americans

who've written me letters and emails in recent weeks, offering to open their homes to refugees fleeing the brutality of ISIL."

Obama's plan to receive thousands of additional Syrian refugees has come under heavy criticism in Congress and has become a key part of the 2016 presidential campaign rhetoric. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MINNEAPOLIS

Funeral held for black man killed by police



Demonstrators outside the Minneapolis's 4th Precinct.

RICHARD TSONG-TAATARI/STAR TRIBUNE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hundreds of people filled a Minneapolis church on Wednesday for the funeral of a black man whose death in a confrontation with police has sparked days of ongoing protests, while charges were pending against four men suspected in a shooting that wounded several of the protesters.

Impassioned speeches from pastors and Jamar Clark's relatives were occasionally interrupted by shouts and applause

inside the cavernous Shiloh Temple International Ministries. Several relatives wore white T-shirts that read, "I matter," with Clark's picture on the back.

Programs also adorned with a photo of Clark described the 24-year-old as a man who "liked to swim, fish, listen to music, play basketball, be with family and take trips to Charlotte, North Carolina."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO

A march protesting the videotaped slaying of 17-year-old Laquan McDonald by a Chicago police officer is planned Friday in the city's busiest shopping district on the busiest shopping day of the year.



A clown marches by heavily armed police standing guard during the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York on Thursday. ANDRES KUDACKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NYPD out in full force

MANHATTAN

Thanksgiving Day Parade under heavy police security

Giant balloons took to the clear, sunny sky over midtown Manhattan on Thursday for the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, with spectators lining up along the parade route and a heavy police presence keeping a watchful eye.

The parade, in its 89th year, included marching bands and floats to go along with Hello Kitty, Snoopy, Paddington and other giant balloons. The performers were expected to include Jordin Sparks, Shawn Mendes and Pat Benatar.

City officials have said there are no known, credible threats against New York City and this wonderful tradition. Her husband said security was heavier than in past years. "I see the cops on top of Radio City," Tom Popp said. "Never saw that before."

along the parade route for the Thanksgiving Day festivities — the largest number of officers the department has ever assigned to the event.

As the parade made its way through midtown Manhattan, helicopters flew overhead and officers stood on top of mobile command centre vans to watch the crowds. Police even stood on top of the marquee at Radio City Music Hall.

The parade is a traditional part of Thanksgiving, when Americans commemorate a 1621 feast shared by colonists known as Pilgrims and Native Americans in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Pamela and Tom Popp of Ridgefield, New Jersey said they've come to the city every year for the parade for at least 20 years.

"It's just a very special part of our holiday," Pamela Popp said. "We're very proud of New York City and this wonderful tradition."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Japanese PM mocked over annual U.S. turkey pardon

President Barack Obama on Wednesday granted amnesty from the dinner table to two turkeys named "Honest" and "Abe." But a translation glitch in Chinese media replaced the character for single-syllable "Abe" with the surname of Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Several commenters in Chinese social media fo-

cused on comparing the prime minister to an animal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kids bullying redheads inspired by South Park

A statement from Melrose Public Schools outside Boston says seventh-graders were imitating an episode from the TV cartoon series South Park when they kicked redhead students last Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Boats come to the rescue

SOUTH ASIA

Cab company sends rowers to save Indian flood victims

A taxi company in India has swapped cabs for boats, as it ramped up efforts to rescue flood victims in the southern city of Chennai last week.

Ola, a private taxi app similar to Uber, explained on Twitter that the company had been "ferrying people out from water-logged areas" in the city after vehicles couldn't access flooded roads.

At least 175 people have died as heavy rainfall pounds Tamil Nadu and submerged parts of the state capital, Chennai, and the surrounding areas.

Schools, hospitals and homes are flooded, and more rain is expected later this week.

The idea for #OlaBoats appears to have started out as a social media joke, but quickly transformed into reality when Ola sent out its first rescue boats on Nov. 17.

The boats were manned by professional rowers and fishermen, who rescued people and provided food and drinking water for free, The Hindu reported.

The boats were equipped



Taxi app Ola has swapped cabs for boats in the flood-ravaged Indian city of Chennai. CONTRIBUTED/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

with two rowers and umbrellas and could ferry five to nine people per trip.

People in Chennai and across India commended the company's initiative.

"Now that's the only good

news that has come out of Chennai amidst floods. Way to go," said Abhishek Jain on Twitter.

"Great job in Chennai. You help the people in distress and they will remember you. Kudos," Nilesch Rupapara added.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MORE ONLINE
metronews.ca



Ola boats in action. CONTRIBUTED/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Tunisia arrests 30 after suicide bombing

Tunisian authorities have detained 30 people suspected of having extremist links after a suicide bombing targeting presidential guards, and identified the bomber as a local street vendor.

The Interior Ministry said in a statement Thursday that forensic police identified the attacker as 27-year-old Houssam ben Hedi ben Miled Abdelli by his DNA. It said he was from a working-class neighbourhood on the edge of Tunis.

In a later statement, the ministry said it detained 30 people suspected of links to extremist groups and seized several weapons in 526 raids around the country over the past 24 hours. It didn't say whether any of the suspects had ties to the attack.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boko Haram kills 16 in village attack: Witnesses

Suspected Boko Haram militants raided a village in southeastern Niger, killing 16 people and looting shops, witnesses said Thursday.

The attack occurred on Wednesday night in a village not far from the border with Nigeria, said Adam Boukarna, who runs a radio station in the nearby town of Diffa.

"The assailants arrived on motorbikes and opened fire on anything that moved before pillaging shops and other business," Boukarna said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Now that's the only good news that has come out of Chennai amidst floods. Way to go.

Twitter user Abhishek Jain



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Gunmen attack Bangladesh mosque

ASIA

At least one killed in attack during Shiite prayer service

At least five assailants opened fire Thursday on devotees during evening prayers at a Shiite mosque in northern Bangladesh, leaving one person dead and three others wounded, police said.

Bogra district police Chief Mohammed Asaduzzaman said by phone that the assailants fled after the attack, which occurred just after sunset at the mosque in Haripur village.

He said a mosque official in his 70s who led the prayers died from bullet injuries and the three others were being treated at a hospital.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

Shiites are a minority in Sunni-majority Bangladesh,



A man injured in an attack on a Shiite mosque is carried for treatment in Bogra district, Bangladesh, on Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

a Muslim-majority nation of 160 million people.

The country has been rocked this year by a series of attacks allegedly carried out by radical groups. Since February, four secular bloggers, a publisher and two foreigners — an Italian aid worker and a Japanese agriculture researcher — have been killed, raising concern that religious extremism is growing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ MORE DETAILS

The government accuses domestic Islamist groups along with the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party and its main Islamist ally, the Jamaat-e-Islami party, of carrying out attacks to destabilize the country for political gain.


 PREFERRED NUTRITION

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A 17-year-old mother sits with her baby in the Inhassune village, southern Mozambique. In Mozambique there are no laws preventing child marriages. SHIRAAZ MOHAMED/AP PHOTO

'Lost childhoods, shattered futures'

AFRICA

Calls for action as brutal plight of child brides is highlighted

The 14-year-old girl had just arrived home from school when her family told her to swap her school uniform for traditional wedding robes. While she had been sitting in her seventh grade classroom in South Africa, her male relatives had received a \$570 bride price for her from a man she'd never met who was twice her age.

As is the case with many child brides, beatings and rape were common in her new marital home. After a number of failed escape attempts, she finally made it over a fence and ran to the nearest police station. She then filed charges for the case that would become the first criminal prosecution of child marriage in South Africa.

An estimated 125 million

African girls are child brides, with that number expected to rise to 310 million by 2050, creating a legacy of "lost childhoods and shattered futures," according to a report released by UNICEF on Thursday that demanded more aggressive government actions to end the practice.

Across Africa girls are being married off to pay off family debts, to keep them free of sin or simply because it's tradition, but the lives of these child brides are ones of violence, poverty and increased risk of HIV, said UNICEF.

In last year's case in South Africa, the girl's husband was convicted of rape, assault and human trafficking and sentenced to 22 years in prison, but he maintained that he was following traditional practices.

Even in South Africa, with its liberal constitution and a litany of laws to protect child

brides, the traditional practice of "ukuthwala" often supersedes modern laws.

Where once a young man would take a consenting girl home to his village to convince her family to agree to marriage, now some aging men are twisting the practice and abducting young girls, raping them, and forcing them into a union that often resembles slavery, according to the commission.

In Ethiopia, abductions and forced marriages were widely practiced until officially outlawed in 2004. In Mozambique, child marriage is a way out of poverty — one less mouth to feed and a windfall from the dowry.

"My parents are poor, they cannot afford to look after me," said a 16-year-old, who has a 1-year-old child. "I helped my family when I got married, they no longer need to support me."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

\$570

The price reportedly paid for a 14-year-old child bride in South Africa.

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TAKE NOTICE that a Certificate of Claim to the following described land situate in the Oldham Land Titles Clarification Area was issued by the Minister of Natural Resources in the names of Elizabeth Isaac and Joanne Blom under Certificate of Claim No. 3131752-C and was registered at the Land Registration Office at Dartmouth, in the County of Halifax, Province of Nova Scotia, the 24th day of November, 2015 as document number 108144594, said land being described as Lot 25A on a Compiled Plan Showing Remaining Portion of Lot 25, Oldham Land Titles Clarification Area.

BOUNDED on the north and the east by Oldham Mines Road; on the south by Lot 19 and the west by 21, lands now or formerly of Anthony Joseph McIntyre and Beverley Myrtle McIntyre. Containing an area of 1,030 square metres, more or less.

A more particular metes and bounds description may be obtained from the Land Registration Office referred to above.

ANY PERSON WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE AN INTEREST in the above described land or who is the holder of a lien, judgment, mortgage, encumbrance or any other charge may, pursuant to subsection 7(1) of the Act, within sixty (60) days of the date of registration of the Certificate of Claim file a written notice thereof with the Minister of Natural Resources, c/o Manager, Acquisitions and Disposals, Land Administration Division, P.O. Box 698, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 2T9.

Dated this 12th day of November, 2015 at Halifax, in the County of Halifax, Province of Nova Scotia.

Honourable Zach Churchill
Acting Minister of Natural Resources



NOTICE

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BOUNDED on the north by Lot 16, lands now or formerly of Cory Alan Muis and Andrea Jane Moss; on the east by Crown land; on the south by the Oldham Mines Road and on the west by Lot 15, lands now or formerly of Peter Muise. Containing an area of 4,789 square metres, more or less.

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Honourable Zach Churchill
Acting Minister of Natural Resources



COMPETITION

Bureau calls for relaxing taxi rules

The Competition Bureau says local regulations on the taxi industry need to be overhauled to deal with new competition from alternatives like the ride-hailing service Uber.

New competitors have gained market share by undercutting the fixed prices of existing cabs and skirting regulations for the industry.

The bureau says that has created an uneven playing field, and cities and provinces should balance the scales by easing rules on taxis rather than looking to increase regulations.

Canadians spent almost \$1.2 billion on taxis in 2014. A report prepared by Ottawa's local authorities in October found Uber prices average around 36 per cent less than a comparable cab fare.

Cities control taxi licensing and the number of taxi permits, and in some areas the value of a so-called taxi plate

\$360K

The highest cost of a single taxi plate in Toronto in 2012.
OTTAWA REPORT

has reached six digits. The Ottawa report found the cost of a single taxi plate in Toronto in 2012 was as high as \$360,000.

The Competition Bureau said among other changes regulators should ease price controls and allow taxi fares to be adjusted to fit with demand, as Uber's are, remove the cap on the number of taxi plates and let additional qualified drivers work for hire, and provide incentives for drivers to operate accessible vehicles in areas where consumers are underserved. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SURVEY

Nearly 40 per cent fought to pay bills this past year

Nearly 40 per cent of Canadians have struggled to cover their household expenses at least once in the past year, a new survey from Manulife Bank suggests.

Lines of credit were the most popular solution for those who came up short, with 33 per cent reporting that they accessed one the last time they were short on funds.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Protesters carry signs featuring the image of Turing Pharmaceuticals' CEO Martin Shkreli in front the building that houses the company's offices in New York, during a protest in October of pharmaceutical drug pricing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Turing reneges on cutting drug's price

PHARMACEUTICALS

Rival's 99-cent version selling well

After weeks of criticism from patients, doctors and other drugmakers for hiking a life-saving medicine's price more than fifty-fold, Turing Pharmaceuticals is reneging on its pledge to cut the \$750-per-pill price.

Instead, the small biotech company is reducing what it charges hospitals, by up to 50 per cent, for its parasitic infection treatment, Daraprim. Most patients' co-payments will be capped at \$10 or less a month. But insurers will be stuck with the bulk of the \$750 tab. That drives up future treatment and

\$750

The per-pill cost of Daraprim, Turing's parasitic infection treatment.

insurance costs.

Daraprim is the preferred treatment for a rare parasitic infection, toxoplasmosis, which mainly threatens people with weak immune systems, and pregnant women, because it can kill their baby.

Turing's move comes after a pharmacy that compounds prescription drugs for individ-

ual patients, Imprimis Pharmaceuticals, started selling a custom-made version for 99 cents per capsule. Those sales weren't a factor in Turing's pricing strategy, chief marketing officer Nancy Retzlaff said Wednesday.

Imprimis CEO Mark Baum said Wednesday orders are pouring in for its version of Daraprim from doctors, and the company has dispensed more than 2,500 capsules since Oct. 22. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FINANCE

Treat holiday charity like an investment, experts advise

More than nine in 10 Canadians follow the example of reformed miser Ebenezer Scrooge and give to charity every year, but experts advise noting his tightwad ways and treating those charitable donations like an investment.

Philanthropy professionals and charity watchdogs say that as the holiday season nears and the airwaves fill with messages of altruism, you should still analyze your chosen charities the same way you would research the purchase of mutual funds or property.

Financial adviser Kate Bahen, managing director of watchdog group Charity Intelligence Canada, says key things to look for include



We often have a tendency to make donations on the fly.

Cynthia Kett, financial planner

whether the charity's financial statements are audited and up-to-date, if the charity has an independent oversight board, and if it spends more on programs than administration and fundraising.

"People need to look at that giving as an investment," she says. "If they could bring that business brain to the giving

table, I think that's where we would see such huge change in Canada for the good."

Financial planner Cynthia Kett says it's best to form long-term relationships with charities that share your values, instead of doling out smaller gifts throughout the year.

"I think it's useful to be strategic in your giving," she says.

When it comes to taxes, Kett says it's important to understand the nuances of the charitable giving tax credit.

Because the first \$200 has a lower credit, married couples can save a little money by combining their donations on one return and having the higher-income spouse claim the credit.

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Bird-bath blues
Scientists can't explain why water-loving British starlings have been drowning in large groups for the past 20 years.

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Weekend, November 27-29, 2015

READERS RESPOND: MELITA'S STORY

In the Nov. 25 issue of Metro, one of our editors shared a personal tale of fleeing to Canada at the age of nine, after her father was imprisoned at a concentration camp in Bosnia and Herzegovina simply for being Muslim. Dozens of readers have reached out with good wishes — and heartfelt refugee and immigration stories of their own.



"I think this will open a lot of readers' eyes"

Hi Melita,

Every day, I commute and read Metro in the morning. Most of the times, I scan headlines and doze off to music I have playing. But this morning, I was glued to your story, and I really appreciate how you have shared your own personal experience. I think this will open a lot of readers' eyes to the current refugee issue.

Shuang Shan

As an immigrant myself, although I came under much better circumstances, I was very moved by your family's story.

"It is a welcome antidote to all the recent negativity"

Melita,

Thank you for your fine article. It is a welcome antidote to all the recent negativity surrounding Syrian refugees and Muslims. As an immigrant myself, although I came here under much better circumstances, I was very moved by your family's story.

Keep up the good work,
David Bednar

"I am so glad that you were able to survive"

Good morning Melita,

While I have been a supporter of the Liberals' plan to bring in the 25,000 refugees, I will readily admit that I haven't spent too much time thinking about the individuals truly affected, who are waiting to be screened and authorized by the UN and Canadian government.

Your story provides a true example of how difficult it must've been for your family to transition to life in Canada.

I am so glad that you and your family were able to survive and thrive in this country, and it makes me so grateful for what my family has really taken for granted.

Just know that your story has touched at least one person today, though I have no doubt that it will touch the hearts of millions.

Take care,
Jennifer Hiltz

"I am the son of a political refugee from Hungary"

Dear Melita,

Many thanks for the nice article. The front-page pictures hit hard in a good way. I am the son of a political refugee from Hungary who refused to go back to the communist ways after the failed revolution of 1956. The pictures of your dad are a great resemblance to my dad, and they brought me to tears. He has been gone now for almost 12 years, but he was the most patriotic Canadian I know. He married my mom, a French-Canadian, and raised

us three boys on a great work ethic and a huge respect for democracy. When I enlisted as an army reservist with the Governor General's Foot Guards (Yes, those soldiers on Parliament Hill) to assist with paying my way through four years of college, he beamed with pride.

I could say much more, and so could you. I am sure enough of a heartfelt story is there to provide material for a book!

Merci beaucoup! Thanks again! Köszönöm szépen!

Michel Imre Zoltan Joseph Asboth

"I hope and pray that other refugees succeed"

Hi Melita,

Thank you for sharing your refugee story. Your parents are so courageous and strong. I'm sure it was incredibly difficult for them and huge sacrifices were made, but they did it for you and your brother.

I can't imagine the difficulty of risking your life with your children, and even the days and nights spent in whichever place you were allowed to stop or rest. It was important that you shared this story, since many people don't realize what immigrants have gone through.

Me and my family also immigrated to this country, and we all know for a fact that we have to work or study hard in order to prove our worth to Canadian society, most especially to those who claim they are the "true Canadians."

I am really fascinated by tales of migration and refugee stories, and I am so pleased that everything worked out well for your family.

I hope and pray that other refugees succeed in their new homes and new lives. I always believe in humanity's faith, hope and compassion despite the recent conflicts and stigma of terrorism haunting the world.

Thanks and regards,
Czarjeff Laban

Melita Kuburas is an associate managing editor at Metro. You can read her story at metronews.ca. She can be reached at melita.kuburas@metronews.ca.

LETTERS HAVE BEEN CONDENSED

metroview

If we think outside the mailbox, we can build real community



Jason Logan
Metro Toronto

Can we talk about community mailboxes?

By now you've no doubt picked your side, either with the robot-loving erstwhile PM and his ugly, grey mailbox banks, or with the more robust-haired champion of door-to-door delivery.

But the election is over and the outcome is clear: community mailboxes are out. So why now talk of sides? Don't we have more pressing concerns? The phase-out of home delivery has been scrapped in mid-flow: in 2014, Canada Post converted 100,000 addresses to community boxes; in 2015, it had planned to do 900,000 more. At least 460,000 of those conversions were already underway, meaning there must be tens of thousands of community mailboxes sitting in warehouses, destined for the garbage heap and the "sunk costs" column.

What if "community mailboxes" isn't an oxymoron?

Don't get me wrong. I, like you, have seen the prophylactic maple-leaf decal and the back-angled roof meant to protect the boxes from snow and rain while making no such accommodation for users. They don't just look like they were designed by a committee of engineers; they actually were. Plus, I love my mail carrier.

Here's the thing, though: in an era of Facetime and delivery drones, communication is at a crossroads, if not a crisis.

This should be an opportunity to rethink, not sentimentalize.

I recently met with the governor general at the Centre for Social Innovation in Toronto, and he noted that when a group of people picks up mail in a central place they create a little community. I led a workshop this summer on this point: how to turn these boxes into community assets. Eventually we were contacted by a Canada Post representative, who said, "We are listening." But listening is not enough.

In urban centres and suburbs, where the community-mailbox fight has been fiercest, there remains, despite bars and bookstores, a need for places to gather 'round. A shared box could become a mini town square, a place to pick up news, ideas and seeds for the garden.

Or what if we got rid of the boxes but kept the idea of central mail pickup? What if packages flowed in and out of your local coffee shop? What if Canada Post stores sold vintage stamps, postcards and stationery? What if the postal workers were trained in community policing and home care? What if getting the mail meant leaving your house, looking up from your phone and finding common ground?

"Stop right there!" you say. We can't afford to play and experiment. I say we can't afford not to. It's with what-ifs that we start a process of thinking outside the slanty-roofed box and remaking our country.

My name is Jason. I did not vote for Harper, and I'm kind of into community mailboxes.

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IT'S THE FINAL COUNTDOWN METRO RANKS ROCKY

The Rocky series gets a semi-spinoff with Creed. And for the first time, Sylvester Stallone's storied underdog isn't the centrepiece. This one follows Apollo Creed's son, Adonis, with Rocky as his mentor. So how does it stack up to the others? Here's our top four favourite Rocky films. **MATT PRIGGE/METRO NEW YORK**



1 Rocky (1976)

Along with Jaws the year prior and Star Wars the year after, the first Rocky is often credited with helping break the gritty, downer streak that had come to somewhat (if by no means entirely) dominate Hollywood in the '70s. But it's still pretty downer and gritty, and it doesn't end with our palooka pugilist even winning. What its many, many knockoffs get wrong is that it's not just about the melodrama and a cheer-able close. Sylvester Stallone's Rocky really has his hills and valleys before he hits the mountaintop. Also often neglected: Stallone's performance, which is so lived-in, so lively, so genuinely lovable that it's easy to take for granted.

2 Creed (2015)

The first movie to feature Stallone's Rocky without being written (and in four cases, directed) by Stallone, Creed is technically fan-fiction, courtesy Fruitvale Station maker Ryan Coogler. But it balances honouring the classics with being its own thing, feeling fresh even when it's pounding out a classic training montage or a big climactic bout. Michael B. Jordan's Adonis — the aspiring boxer son of dead-and-gone Rocky rival-turned-bud Apollo Creed — may be the lead, but Rocky doesn't just pass the torch. Even after four decades, Stallone is able to find new notes inside a character who has aged from Rocky from the block to a superstar, back to a guy who's back on the block, mourning the many who've passed on.



3 Rocky III (1982)

The sequels — before the genuinely melancholic revival Rocky Balboa in 2005 — turned increasingly silly and outsized to match a star who himself turned silly and outsized. The third is at least deeply entertaining, no less because it has a villain — Mr. T's Clubber Lang — whose personality is so big and charismatic he threatens to hijack the entire franchise. At least Stallone the director had evolved. He was among the first in Hollywood to adopt a punchier MTV esthetic to mainstream filmmaking (and thus made the movies shorter by about 20 minutes). As Matt Zoller Seitz illustrated in a video piece about Stallone's filmmaking, the difference between the sleeper '70s training montages of II and the jazzed-up one in III is chasmic.



4 Rocky Balboa (2006)

The '90s were spotty for Stallone, and the first half of the '00s were abysmal, the star bottoming out with DTV fare like Avenging Angelo and the disastrous (and disastrously titled) Eye See You. You could cynically say he was just being cynical when he dusted Rocky off (and then Rambo, too), but he took the return seriously, in part because he wanted to give a noble send-off to a character who'd gone out like a chump in the little-loved Rocky V. Balboa is in many ways stubborn: at times sleepy and old-fashioned, even spotty, but it's also deeply felt. Even its appropriations of the original, including the same ending, feel sincere, devoted to a character who feels as real as Stallone himself, if not more so.

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Scaredy-dino echoes director's own fears



The Good Dinosaur marks Pixar artist Peter Sohn's directorial debut. CONTRIBUTED

PETER SOHN

Young dino finds out what he's made, as the director did

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



When Peter Sohn joined Pixar Studios 15 years ago as a story artist on Finding Nemo, he would've never dreamed that he'd someday be directing his very own movie. Even now, with his debut family epic The Good Dinosaur, he's quick to give credit to the animation empire.

"People at Pixar — they really support you," said Sohn in Toronto about his quick rise through various departments at the animation house. "I remember working in L.A. and when you were done with a project, you were laid off. That's not the case at Pixar — once you're done with a project, you're able to move to another project (and) it becomes more about doing your best."

For Sohn, his finest work included important contributions to such box-office hits as The Incredibles and Monsters University — not to mention lending voice work to supporting characters in such films as Oscar-winner Ratatouille.

"In the story department, you're always pitching your scenes so you're doing the voices," admitted Sohn about how he stumbled into voice work as well as an animation. "It does give you a lot of learning too (for) directing other people."

The truth is, The Good Dinosaur relies heavily on Sohn's personal experiences as well as his professional success. Set within the premise that dinosaurs never went extinct, Sohn's feature follows the Jurassic journey of a stray Apatosaurus trying to overcome his fears while trekking home with a young Neanderthal amigo.

"It didn't set out to be a parallel but it became that," admitted Sohn. Like most good fantasy, the film's themes echo real life. After all, Arlo the Apatosaurus's challenge to find out what he's really made of mirrors Sohn's struggles with

EYES HAVE IT

It's all in the pupils

Part of Pixar's success has been by anthropomorphizing animals in their animated hits. As Sohn explains, much of that is in humanizing the eyes.

"(We) have charts on eyes and how to break down an eyebrow, pupil size, placement of pupil," said the longtime Pixar and Disney filmmaker. "I can't tell you how much you study the eyes and find gestures of thoughtfulness."

his own self-confidence as a young Korean immigrant artist in America.

"When fear stops me from doing what I need to do; when I feel like I'm not worth anything (and) I'm trying to find a way to get through it," explained Sohn. "It was always the love of movies and the love of my family and people around me — there was always that answer. What a simple concept — you can't get rid of fear but you can always get through it."

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Nixon plays a terminally-ill mother in the upcoming drama *James White*. CONTRIBUTED

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New role draws praise for Nixon

JAMES WHITE

Stepping out of SATC shadow, Nixon drawing Oscar buzz

Steve Gow
 For Metro Canada



It's been over a decade since *Sex and the City* ended its run on HBO and while the hit television series' stars have remained shrouded in the shadow of its success, Cynthia Nixon is finally stepping into the spotlight.

Starring in a forthcoming biopic about poet Emily Dickinson and recurring as a therapist in the upcoming season of Showtime's hit drama *The Affair*, the SATC actress is finally breaking out from being only recognized as Miranda Hobbes.

"It was a great time in just about every way," recalled Nixon recently of the classic series. "Least of which was how deliciously the scripts were written and all the fun things you got to do. Its fun to have an ensemble like that (when) you mesh so well."

However, once the series ended, the twice-E Emmy winning star found herself trying to shake the tyranny of typecasting. Instead of simply taking easy money because producers "think you should be doing romantic parts," Nixon chose to be cautiously selective — a choice that's finally paying off.

"I'll be 50 next year and the thing about getting older is there are fewer parts but the good news is, if you can get them, they're really interesting," said

Nixon. Specifically, she cites her latest portrayal as a terminally-ill mother dealing with a slouch son in the award-winning drama, *James White* — a role that's even drawing early Oscar buzz.

"When (producers) make movies about people dying of diseases, a common trap is that they set up a very two-dimensional character and then it's all about the disease," said Nixon, humbly crediting her positive reviews to filmmaker Josh Mond. "People are very moved by the story (and) what's wonderful is how personally it hits people."

But James White also struck Nixon intimately. Just before shooting the film, her own mother succumbed to cancer — a somber circumstance that only informed and emboldened her even more to the character.

"I would've taken the part regardless of the situation but because of my situation, I was better equipped to do it," admitted Nixon. "So even though it was of course sad at times, I think making the movie made me feel closer to my mother."

MOVIES

Cynthia Nixon's early career role model

One of Nixon's idols became actress (and Gwyneth Paltrow's mother) Blythe Danner after Nixon worked with her on stage.

"I was so impressed with not only her unbelievable skill, beauty and charm but what a rich, full life she had and how devoted she was to her kids," said Nixon. "She was a big role model for me."

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The communist who didn't name names

NEW FILM

Bryan Cranston talks Dalton Trumbo's moral stance

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



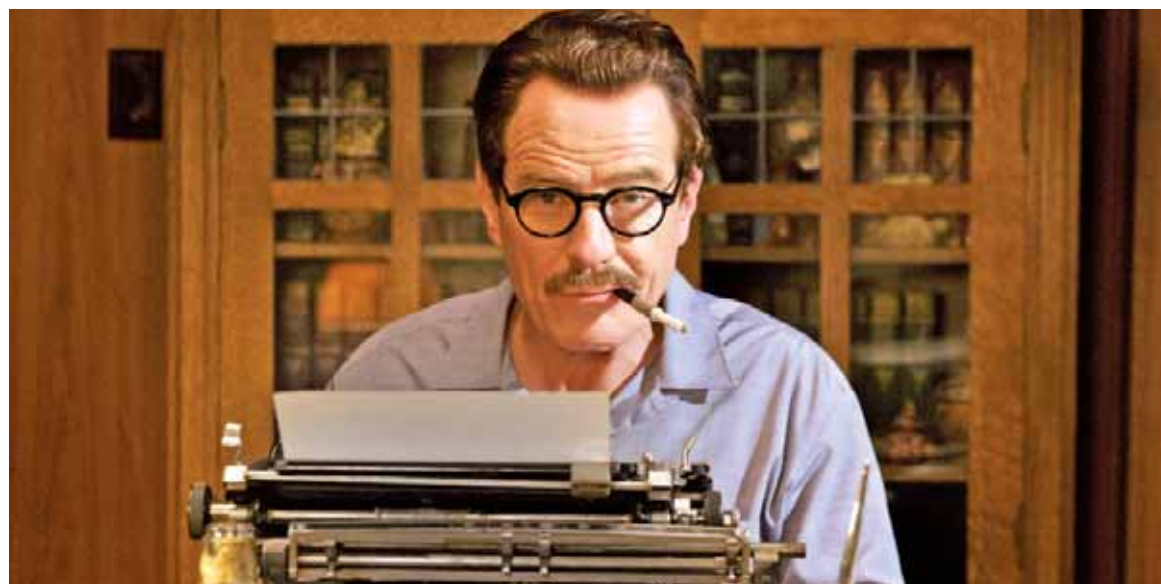
For a brief time Dalton Trumbo was the highest paid writer in Hollywood, which also meant he was the highest paid writer in the world.

He was a family man, a wealthy and proud American communist whose career was sidelined by The Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals.

A new film called Trumbo, starring Breaking Bad's Bryan Cranston, tells the story of how the Academy Award winning screenwriter was reduced to penning scripts for b-movies like The Alien and the Farm Girl.

"Under the first amendment you have the right to free speech and Trumbo felt very strongly about that," says Cranston.

"He thought it was un-Amer-



Bryan Cranston plays blacklisted Hollywood writer Dalton Trumbo in Trumbo, opening this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

ican and unconstitutional for the House Un-American Activities Committee to hold these hearings and demand under threat of contempt of Congress that people answer these questions.

The questions were things like: Are you now or have you

ever been a member of the Communist Party? And, if so, to save yourself, renounce it now and tell us who else was a member. The committee wanted these people to give names so they could go after more people.

"It's fundamentally wrong and he felt that was wrong and

unconstitutional to ask that question," says Cranston of Trumbo's reaction.

Trumbo didn't name names and paid a heavy price, losing his lofty Hollywood perch and almost his family.

"In a way I relate to Trumbo," says Cranston, but admits he's

not sure what he would do if his career was ever placed in a similar kind of jeopardy.

"What would you do if they subpoenaed you and said, 'We want to know who else likes baseball? Who is it?' Would you point the finger at other people who found enjoyment out of

playing baseball?

"Of course I would love to think I would be honourable and not do it, but I have to be honest and say, that's a hypothetical. I think I would be resistant to that pressure and perhaps even pay the price, but do I know for sure? No.

"I don't know for a certainty because I'm not faced with it."

After wrapping his five-season career-making run as Breaking Bad's Walter White, Cranston has kept busy, winning a Tony Award for playing Lyndon B. Johnson on Broadway in All the Way and has eight films in various stages of completion. He made time for Trumbo because "the story itself is brilliant and that is the first thing I look for," but admits he's gotten picky about the parts he plays.

"I don't want to now take a job for money. I take jobs because I'm attracted to them by the creative element or because it challenges me in some way and my agents are incentivized to work out the best deal they can.

"I don't want to portray this idea that I'm just about the art. I've been poor and I've been rich and rich is better."

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SOUTH COAST

Go off the beaten track to explore the island's culinary side

Melissa Dunne
For Metro Canada



When most Canadians jet off to Jamaica they go straight from the airport to behind the gates of an all-inclusive resort.

Once behind the gates, people are usually served bad drinks with little umbrellas in them, reheated versions of the same food you can get back home and truly terrible stale coffee in the morning when you're nursing the hangover from all the umbrella drinks you drank the day before.

Aim higher. If you're going to stay behind the resort gates you might as well stay home and sip on cheap rum in your basement while watching the latest hockey game. Instead of heading to the crowded, kitschy resorts in Montego Bay and Kingston, get a taste of the real Jamaica by heading off the beaten (tourist) track.

Jake's Hotel in Treasure Beach, where staff can organize off-site adventures with local guides accompanying you, is a great option for those wanting to safely explore the Caribbean island.

Jake's is a bumpy two-and-a-half hours' drive from Sangster's International Airport in Montego Bay. It's well worth the



The salt-water pool at Jake's Hotel, where the water is pumped in straight from the bay. PHOTOS COURTESY MARY APESOS/FINN PARTNERS

commute. Contact the hotel to arrange a driver, for \$134 US, one way, for up to a group of four. The boutique hotel is actually a collection of colourful cottages, ranging from small rooms with garden views starting at about \$135 US (all prices not inclusive of taxes and service fees, for a minimum five-night stay) to a luxury villa with ocean views from \$1,110 US per night during the high season (from Dec. 15 to April 15).

Eat and drink local

Eat al fresco at Jake's with the sound of the salt-water crashing



A lobster feast courtesy of One Love Boat Tours with captain Joseph Brown.



A traditional Jamaican breakfast at Jake's Hotel with fresh, locally grown ingredients.

against the rocks in the back-ground. The menu changes constantly, as it features local produce and seafood when it's in season. Be sure to try Jake's take on ackee and saltfish, Jamaica's national dish, for breakfast and pair it with a cup of famous Blue Mountain coffee.

To really get a sense of the St. Elizabeth Parish make sure to time your visit for the once-monthly farm-to-table event at Dool's Farm. The sunset dinner with the local farmer available to answer any questions is well worth the \$95 US, plus taxes and tips. Most people in the rural, relaxed parish will gladly talk your ear off, so don't be shy to ask about the provenance and importance of their local food and drink.

The warm staff at Jake's can also help set up a boat tour, including a private feast with freshly caught lobster on a secluded beach, followed by a visit to Pelican Bar. The picturesque bar is actually a shack in the middle of the sea where you'll likely sip on a few Red Stripe beers and Appleton Estate rums mixed with ginger beer.

Rum is in the running to become the next bourbon, so there's no better place to get educated about the good stuff than by taking a day trip to partake in the Appleton Estate Rum Tour.

Once you've ventured beyond the resort gates in Jamaica you'll wonder why you stayed behind them for so long in the first place.

The writer was a guest of Jamaica Tourist Board, which did not review nor approve the story.

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Don't let the loonie clip your travel wings

ON THE MOVE

Look at other sun spots when the dollar is weak

Loren Christie
For Metro Canada



The falling loonie has not only put a strain on the wallets of travellers heading to the United States but on sun seekers faced with rising prices from tour operators who do their contracting in U.S. dollars. But there are ways you can still take a winter holiday without breaking the bank.

Book now

Canadian travel companies have jumped on board the Cyber Monday shopping craze, making early next week the time to find some great deals. Starting Monday, Cheapflights.ca's 12 Days of Travel will feature one deal per day. These daily deals will cover budgets for every level and range from savings on Caribbean cruises, to dis-

counted airfares on airlines like WestJet and Air Canada, to major discounts on hotel stays in Cuba and Dominican Republic. Transat.ca is celebrating Cyber Monday with a one-day auction on Twitter to benefit SOS Children's Villages. Twenty lots comprising sun packages to destinations like Mexico, Curacao and St. Maarten and roundtrip flights to Europe from 11 cities will be up for grabs.

Consider off-season travel

According to a recent Travelzoo.ca survey more Canadians (73 per cent) are opting for off-season vacations to save on costs. Although it may mean for a longer winter, beach bums should head south after Easter when prices start to drop. Travelling to Europe in the off-season is a great alternative for Canadians. Not only is the

euro experiencing its own decline but there are deals to be had during the winter months. As an added bonus Canadians travelling to the "old world" in winter will experience smaller crowds than during the summer.

Seek out alternative (and better value) destinations

Skip the all-inclusive to Jamaica and head to spots in Central and South America like Panama and Ecuador, which are growing in popularity. According to online travel company FlightHub, Asia has seen a spike in popularity this winter with destinations like the Philippines and Thailand taking over the top ranking from the typical favourites Orlando and Las Vegas. Yes the flights to Asia are not cheap, but once you are on the ground you will get a much better bang for your Canadian buck.

Compare exchange rates

Consider getting local currency of the country you are travelling in versus bringing U.S. cash. It likely will yield you a better rate. Most major airports in the world have a bank machine making access to local currency easy when you first land.



Temper the effects of a low loonie by taking advantage of Cyber Monday deals. ISTOCK



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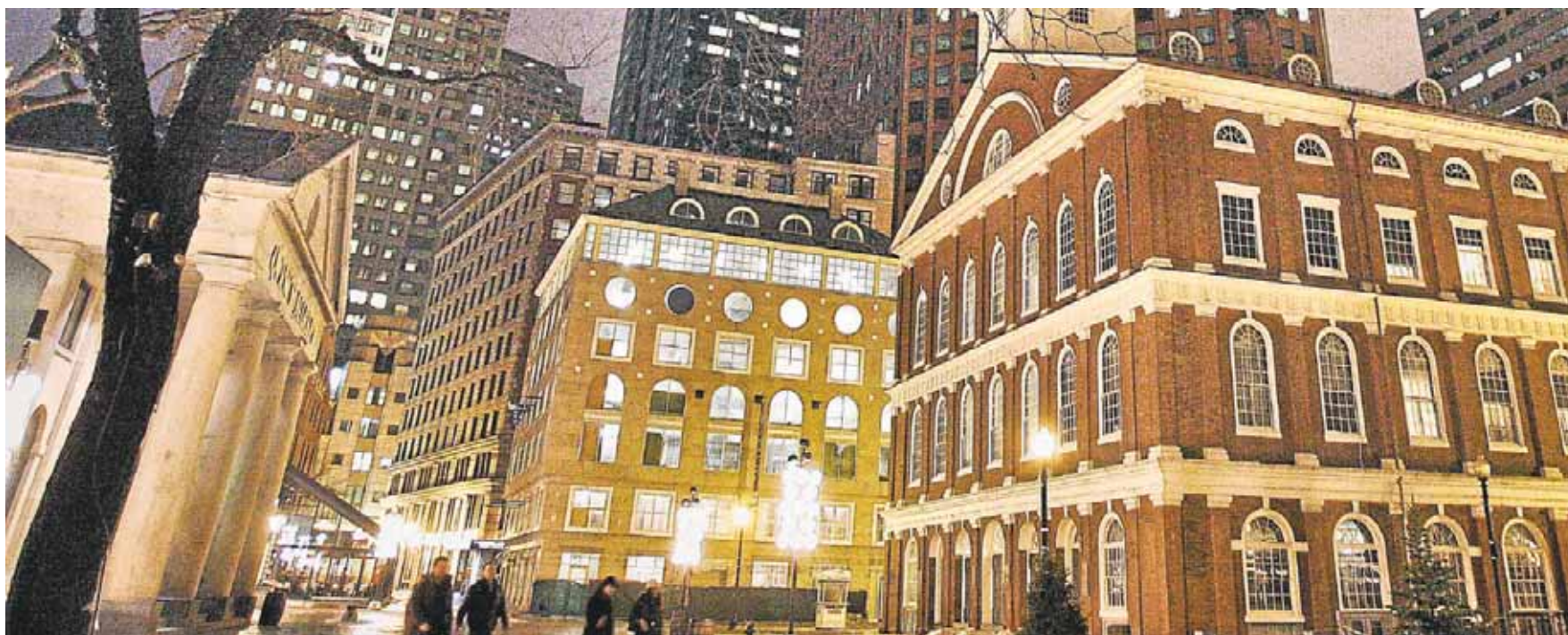
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Faneuil Hall, at left, in downtown Boston is one of the historic sites on the city's Freedom Trail. MICHAEL DWYER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

What's wicked cool and new in Boston

MASSACHUSETTS

Indoor coral reef, marathon lore — and don't forget Fenway

No bucket list is complete without at least one trip to Boston, a city that's forever coming up with new ways to entice visitors to return. Sure, there's always Fenway Park, the Freedom Trail and those zany duck boat tours. But while you were away, the Cradle of Liberty sprouted some wicked cool new stuff. Here's your guide to Beantown, both on and off the beaten path:

What's new

If you're a runner or a history buff, or both, you'll be hot to

trot for RunBase.

Part interactive museum, clubhouse and retail outlet, RunBase opened last spring near the finish line of the iconic Boston Marathon.

It's a great place to find someone to share a run along the nearby Charles River, or simply to learn more about the rich lore of the 119-year-old marathon, America's most storied footrace.

Across town on the harbour, check out the renovated giant ocean tank at the New England Aquarium. It got a \$17.8-million remake in 2013, and 52 viewing bays now look out on a coral reef teeming with more than 1,000 fish species.

Unleash your inner Cous-teau beneath the new reflective ceiling dome, which gives the entire aquarium a shimmering undersea vibe. If you're visiting

with kids, this is a must-see.

Need some fresh air? Stroll the Rose Kennedy Greenway, one of the nation's premier showcases for unusual open-air art installations. There's abstract sculpture, a labyrinth and more.

Coming in spring 2016: the Boston Wax Museum. This won't be just another Madame Tussauds; Brazil-based Dreams Entertainment Group says its U.S. debut venture will feature wax likenesses of influential Bostonians through the ages in politics, sports and entertainment.

Classic attractions

Non-negotiables: lunch and shopping at Faneuil Hall Marketplace in the heart of downtown, where Samuel Adams and other patriots agitated for rebellion against the British.

+ TIP

• Pack an umbrella:

Boston's weather is famously unpredictable. If you're planning to visit in winter, keep in mind that February tends to be the region's snowiest month.

Ditto a leisurely walk through Boston Common and the adjacent Boston Public Garden, the heart and lungs of the city.

You can't truthfully say you've done Boston without

following the Freedom Trail, a 2.5-mile route that takes in Old North Church, Paul Revere House, Bunker Hill Monument and a dozen other colonial sites. A raucous alternative is a splashy ride on a duck boat: a Second World War-style amphibious vehicle that rumbles past most of those landmarks.

Other must-sees: the highly interactive John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, devoted to the 35th president and Massachusetts' most favourite son. Or, if high-end retail therapy is your thing, the fashionable salons and bou-

tiques of Newbury Street.

For heaven's sake, don't go home without genuflecting before Fenway Park, a shrine which deserves a visit even if the Red Sox inside aren't always worthy. Catch a game in season and consider an hour-long walking tour and a selfie atop the ballpark's signature Big Green Monster wall.

By now, you'll be ravenous. Head to the North End, a warren of narrow streets lined with Italian restaurants. Slake your thirst with a tour of the Samuel Adams Brewery.

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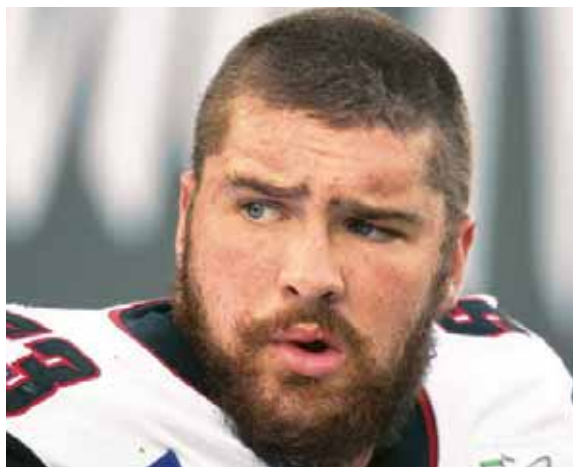
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Liverpool qualified for the last 32 of the Europa League thanks to a Christian Benteke goal, while Celtic is knocked out by Ajax 2-1



Dartmouth's Matthew Albright of the Ottawa Redblacks will take part in Sunday's Grey Cup. TOM SZCZERBOWSKI/GETTY IMAGES

CFL

Nova Scotian hopes for Grey Cup glory

A Nova Scotian will be in the middle of the action for this Sunday's 103rd Grey Cup in Winnipeg when the Edmonton Eskimos take on the Ottawa Redblacks.

Dartmouth native Matthew Albright, 24, is an offensive lineman for the Redblacks, having made his Canadian Football League debut with the team this past July.

Albright was drafted 42nd

overall at the 2013 CFL Draft by the B.C. Lions, and then selected by the Redblacks later that year in the expansion draft.

Albright also played Canadian Interuniversity Sport football for the Saint Mary's Huskies.

He was the AUS nominee for the 2012 Russ Jackson Award, recognizing the season's top CIS player.

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO

IN BRIEF

New Brunswick double-header for St. Mary's

The Saint Mary's Huskies head to New Brunswick for a double-header, while the Dalhousie Tigers host St. Francis Xavier for games worth big points, in Atlantic University Sport basketball action this weekend.

On the women's side, the Huskies tip off against the UNB Varsity Reds at 6 p.m. on both Friday night and Saturday, while the Tigers take to the court in Antigonish to play the X-Women at 6 p.m. on Saturday evening.

The men's teams take to the court immediately afterwards, with the Huskies playing the Varsity Reds at 8 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday, and the Tigers going up against the X-Men on 8 p.m. on Saturday.

The two Dalhousie-St. Francis Xavier games are worth four points for the winning teams. KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO

Mooseheads face stern test vs. Charlottetown Islanders

The Halifax Mooseheads hit the road this weekend for a game against the Charlottetown Islanders.

Halifax hopes to make it two straight, and improve its current record of 10-14-3-1, when the puck drops at 3 p.m. inside the Eastlink Centre. It should be a tight game between the two regional rivals. The Islanders hold a record of 11-13-2-1 on the regular season, putting them in fourth place of the Maritimes division, and 13th place in the QMJHL, compared to fifth and 14th place for the Mooseheads.

The Herd then takes a break from game action until the following weekend, when they host the first-place Rouyn-Noranda on Friday night, and fourth-place Val-d'Or Foreurs on Saturday night, both at the Scotiabank Centre. KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO

Biyombo helping Raps take care of 'Bis'

NBA

Lowry, Casey laud centre's rim protection and attitude

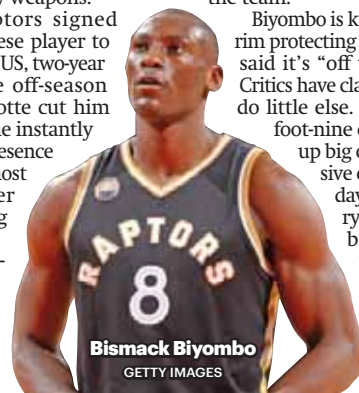
When Jonas Valanciunas bent his big body in pain Friday night in Los Angeles while cradling his broken left hand, it could have spelled disaster for the Toronto Raptors.

But two games into what could be a six-week absence for Toronto's starting centre, the Raptors are faring well. Bismack Biyombo is a big reason why. Biyombo started in place of the injured Valanciunas on Wednesday and filled in admirably, recording a double-double — 11 points and 12 rebounds — in Toronto's 103-99 win over the Eastern Conference-leading Cleveland Cavaliers.

"He set the tone for us defensively," said Raptors coach Dwane Casey. "Protecting the paint, talking, being physical, being a deterrent at the rim and that was big for us. That's a good team. That team right there has got so many weapons."

The Raptors signed the Congolese player to a \$6-million US, two-year deal in the off-season after Charlotte cut him loose, and he instantly made his presence felt as the most vocal player in training camp.

"Vocalness. Athleticism. Under-standing where to



Bismack Biyombo
GETTY IMAGES



The Cavaliers' LeBron James, left, is blocked at the rim by the Raptors' Bismack Biyombo in Toronto on Wednesday. DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

be. Timing, he has great timing," Kyle Lowry said, when asked what Biyombo brings to the team.

Biyombo is known for his rim protecting — Casey has said it's "off the charts." Critics have claimed he can do little else. But the six-foot-nine centre came up big on the offensive end Wednesday when Lowry fed him for back-to-back uncontested dunks in the dying minutes to put the game out

of reach.

"Those last couple of buckets were big for us. We needed them," Lowry said. Biyombo arrived in Toronto looking for a fresh start after an inauspicious four years with Charlotte.

After leaving his home in Labumbashi for Yemen at the age of 16, he was spotted at a youth tournament there and invited to play in Spain, where he spent the better part of three years.

Biyombo caught the eye of Raptors coach Masai Ujiri, among other NBA general managers, at the 2011 Nike Hoop Summit — a game that pits the best American high schoolers against a team of international players. Biyombo recorded the Summit's

first-ever triple-double, with 12 points, 11 boards and 10 blocks. He was drafted seventh overall by Sacramento in 2012 and then traded to Charlotte. His first two seasons were solid, but his numbers trailed off over the last two campaigns.

The Raptors also acquired DeMarre Carroll in the off-season to shore up their defence. Carroll, who hounded LeBron James all night, said he and Biyombo have "similar mindsets."

"Bis just focuses on defence, he understands what got him in the league, he understands what his strong point is and that's being defensive, blocking shots and grabbing rebounds," Carroll said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

AUS HOCKEY

Huskies can stay on top by beating Mounties

The Saint Mary's Huskies hope to keep their winning streak alive this weekend.

The Huskies, who are atop Atlantic University Sport women's hockey standings with a 9-2-0 record, host the Mount Allison Mounties at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

All nine of those wins have

been consecutive, starting with a 2-1 win over crosstown rivals the Dalhousie Tigers on Oct. 21.

The Tigers, meanwhile, will try to play some catch-up this weekend, with a game on the road against the UPEI Panthers on Saturday afternoon and another at home versus the St.

Francis Xavier X-Women on Sunday evening.

The Tigers are currently in sixth place of AUS standings, with a 4-5-0 record, ahead of only the Panthers.

In men's AUS hockey action, the Dalhousie travels to Wolfville to face off against the Acadia

Axemen on Friday night, while Saint Mary's hosts the St. Francis Xavier X-Men on Saturday night.

Saint Mary's is in fourth place with a 7-5-2 record, while Dalhousie trails with a 4-8-2 record for seventh place, ahead of only the St. Thomas Tommies.

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO

Redblacks D full of swagger

103RD GREY CUP

Ottawa led CFL in sacks, among other categories

The fledgling Redblacks have wasted little time branding their defence.

Ottawa's defensive linemen and linebackers are dubbed Capital Punishment. The defensive secondary is known as D Block.

"There is definitely the same swagger but we go about things a little bit differently than D Block does," explained six-foot-two 251-pound defensive lineman Shawn Lemon.

"Capital Punishment is a little more hands on," he added with a menacing smile.

While the Edmonton Eskimos and head coach Chris Jones, a defensive guru, have occupied most of the defensive spotlight going into Sunday's Grey Cup, the Redblacks have their own defensive chops.

Overseeing the Ottawa defence on the sidelines — with help from head coach Rick Campbell — is veteran co-ordinator Mark Nelson.

Nelson, a Nick Nolte look-alike complete with gravelly voice, is old-school football through and through.

"An old, tough ball coach type of guy," said linebacker Damaso Munoz. "He's a great coach, man, and I'm happy to play for him."

His late father, offensive tackle Roger Nelson, is on the Eskimos Wall of Honour. He played 13 seasons for Edmonton between 1954 and 1967, was named the league's Most Outstanding Lineman in 1959 and was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in 1985.

Mark Nelson made his CFL debut in 1980 with Calgary,



The Redblacks' Brandyn Thompson, middle, is in on a gang tackle of the Tiger-Cats' Andy Fantuz during the East Division final. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

playing six seasons as line-backer and fullback before retiring in 1987 with the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

His oldest son Kyle Nelson, one of his kids, is a long snapper for the San Francisco 49ers.

Campbell brought Mark Nelson to Ottawa. They met in 2006 and worked together in Winnipeg and Edmonton.

"The players believe in him," said Campbell. "He was a player and gets what it's like being a player, interacts well with them."

Nelson, a native of Edmonton who won Grey Cups as an assistant coach in 1993 with the Eskimos and 1996 with the Argonauts, says the Ottawa defence is more than the sum of its parts.

"We're slowly getting bet-



We may not be the best in everything but as a unit we really play hard — and play for each other, as corny as that sounds.

Redblacks defensive co-ordinator Mark Nelson

ter," he said.

"We may not be the best in everything but as a unit we really play hard — and play for each other, as corny as that sounds."

Nelson says some of his defence's statistical pluses are

simply due to the good play of the offence or special teams, allowing his charges to rest.

Ottawa led the league in sacks (62) and was No. 1 against the rush (70.8 yards a game allowed). No team was stingier than the Redblacks when it

came to net yards offence allowed (297.6 yards a game).

Edmonton allowed the fewest points (341) and was No. 1 in pass defence (245.2 yards a game).

Lemon is unimpressed.

"I know our defence is better than theirs," he said matter-of-factly. "I'll take the group of DBs we have over theirs any day. I'll take the group of linebackers we have any day. And I'll most definitely take our D-line over them every day."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Esks have proven they can handle foe's high-octane offence



The Eskimos' Patrick Watkins tackles the Stampeders Eric Rogers in the West Division final. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Edmonton Eskimos head coach Chris Jones knows all too well how good Ottawa Redblacks veteran quarterback Henry Burris can be in a Grey Cup game.

Jones was the Calgary Stampeders' defensive co-ordinator in 2008 when they won the Grey Cup with a 22-14 victory over the Montreal Alouettes at Olympic Stadium. Burris was named the game MVP after throwing for 328 yards and a TD and rushing for a team-high 79 yards on nine carries.

Jones and Burris find themselves back in the Grey Cup,

although on opposite sides of the field.

Under Jones, Edmonton finished tied with Calgary for the CFL's best record at 14-4 but secured top spot in the West Division standings by winning the season series. The Eskimos then beat the defending league champions 45-31 in the West Division final.

Burris was a big reason for

the huge turnaround in Ottawa. After posting a 2-16 record in their inaugural season, the Redblacks finished atop the East Division with a 12-6

record, then secured the city's first Grey Cup appearance since 1981 with a thrilling 35-28 win over Hamilton in the conference final.

Burris's 93-yard TD strike to Greg Ellingson with just over a minute remaining earned

Ottawa its winning margin.

The Eskimos have shown they can play defence against Ottawa and have the talent in the secondary to handle the East squad's four 1,000-yard receivers. Edmonton does boast two 1,000-yard receivers but it's Reilly who makes that offence go and the Redblacks' defence will get its first look at him Sunday.

And the combination of Jones, Reilly and nine straight wins make it hard to go against the West Division champions.

Pick - Edmonton.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



IN BRIEF

Habs without goaltender

Price for at least a week
Montreal Canadiens goaltender Carey Price will miss at least a week due to a nagging lower-body injury.

Price played the first 40 minutes in a 5-1 victory over the New York Rangers on Wednesday night but did not return for the third period. Head coach Michel Therrien said Thursday that Price has been put on the injured list. The Habs will rely on rookie Mike Condon to minimize the impact of Price's absence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Yakupov could miss a month after ankle sprain

Edmonton Oilers forward Nail Yakupov is expected to miss two to four weeks after spraining his left ankle in a 4-1 loss to the Carolina Hurricanes on Wednesday night.

He was knocked down when Matt MacPherson lost his balance and fell backwards after a faceoff early in the second period. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lions so thankful for Stafford



Calvin Johnson of the Detroit Lions catches a third-quarter touchdown in front of cornerback Eric Rowe of the Philadelphia Eagles at Ford Field in Detroit on Thursday. LEON HALPI/GETTY IMAGES

NFL

Detroit rides its red-hot QB and Johnson to down Eagles

Matthew Stafford and Calvin Johnson combined for one of the best games of their careers, helping the surging Detroit Lions keep the Philadelphia Eagles reeling.

Stafford tied a career high with five touchdown passes. Three of them were to Johnson, who also tied a personal best, in a 45-14 rout of Philadelphia on Thursday.

The Lions (4-7) have won three straight this season and three in a row in their annual Thanksgiving game.

The Eagles (4-7) are on a three-game losing streak. They

have allowed at least 45 points in two-straight games in one season for the first time in team history.

Stafford threw for more than 200 yards and three touchdowns without a turnover by halftime, helping the Lions lead 24-7. He finished 27 of 38 for 337 yards and threw five TDs for the fourth time in his career. Johnson had eight catches for 93 yards and three TDs, matching his career high set in 2010.

After not throwing to Johnson much early in the game, Stafford started connecting with the star receiver.

Stafford threw a 25-yard pass high in the end zone, where only the 6-foot-5 Johnson could catch it, to put Detroit ahead 24-7 with 12 seconds left in the first half. Taking advantage of Johnson in one-on-one coverage, Stafford threw 4- and 3-yard TD passes to him in the third quarter. Joique Bell added a rushing TD in the fourth.

Eagles quarterback Mark Sanchez threw for 199 yards and two TDs — to Brent Celek and Jordan Matthews.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THURSDAY In Detroit

45	14
LIONS	EAGLES



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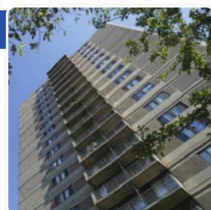
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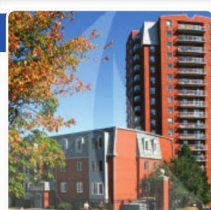
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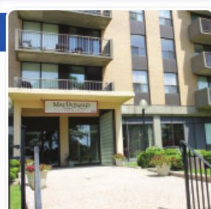
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RECIPE Sweet Potato Shepherd's Pie



PHOTO: MAYA VINCEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

We've updated this classic comfort food dish with a healthy topping of mashed sweet potatoes.

Ready in
Prep time: 60 minutes
Serves 8

Ingredients

- 2 lb organic lean ground beef
- 2 large cloves garlic, diced
- 3 sticks celery, diced
- 2 yellow onions, diced
- 2 large carrots, diced
- 1 1/2 teaspoon salt, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 2 Tbsps chili powder
- 2 tps ground cumin
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 2 Tbsps flour
- 1/2 cup beef broth
- 1/4 cup water
- 6 drops of Worcestershire sauce
- 2 large sweet potatoes, cut into even-sized wedges
- 1/2 cup milk
- 3 Tbsps butter

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F.
2. In a large Dutch oven, cook beef over medium heat until browned, about 10 minutes.
3. Stir in garlic, celery, onions, carrots, pepper, chili powder, cumin, cinnamon, oregano and 1 tsp of salt. Cook, stirring occasionally, until vegetables are tender, about 15 minutes.
4. Stir in flour; cook for 1 minute. Add broth, water and Worcestershire sauce; simmer for 3 minutes. Divide mixture between two 8-inch baking dishes.
5. Meanwhile, in large pot of boiling salted water, cook sweet potato until tender, about 12 minutes. Drain and return pot to low heat. Stir in milk, butter and remaining salt; mash until smooth. Spread evenly over beef.
6. Bake until bubbly at the edges, about 35 minutes. Or cover with plastic wrap and then foil and freeze for up to 1 month. Bake, uncovered and frozen, in 350 F oven for 50 to 60 minutes.

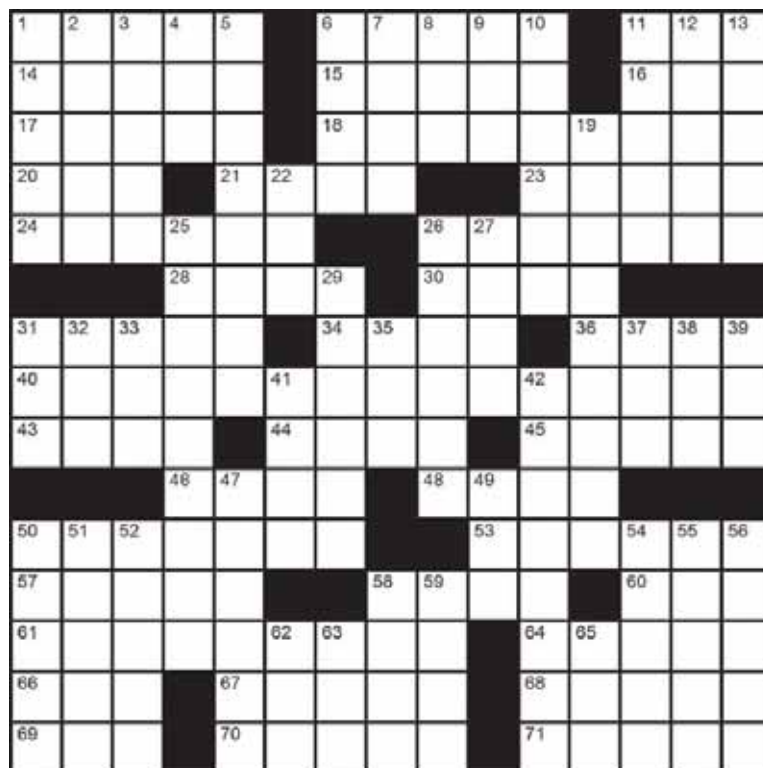
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Fastened: 2 wds.
6. Morning times: acronym + abbr.
11. Ms. Monroe, mini-ly
14. _ _ -porter
15. Tamarack _ (NWT's official tree)
16. 'Brit' suffix
17. Classic fabric
18. Territory just outside Montreal where the Mohawk ironworkers who worked on #50-Across (as well as other buildings and bridges in North America for more than a century) are from
20. Veggie of Japan
21. Mr. Sachedina (Correspondent, CTV National News)
23. B-movie prop, _ ray gun
24. Melancholy in mood
26. Food storage items
28. 'Euclid' and 'Jacob' suffixes
30. Ms. Poehler's
31. Render revolverless
34. Seep slowly
36. Colosseum outfit
40. Dsquared2 is the fashion brand of these identical Canadian twin brothers: 4 wds.
43. Spectacles holders
44. Egypt-themed opera
45. Many times
46. Piouette-maker's garb



48. Shingles site
50. _ Tower aka One World Trade Center (New York's tallest skyscraper)
53. Greatly grasp
57. Swift
58. Lingerie pieces
60. 1985 chart-topper: "We _ the World"

61. Travel plan
64. Happen
66. Jiffy
67. Rapsallion
68. Got along
69. ms. lang, et al.
70. Mary, Queen of _
71. Guitar bars

DOWN

1. Grade below C Minus: letter + wd.
2. 'Rainbow'-meaning prefix
3. Religion branch [abbr.]
4. Sport- (All-purpose vehicle)

5. Vista
6. _ -Seltzer
7. Volcanic crater
8. Royal's title letters
9. Mil. force since 1910
10. "Only Love" feat. Pitbull & Gene Noble is a current song by what Grammy-winning

- reggae star?
11. Florida city
12. Billy Joel's "Don't _ _ Why"
13. Ostrich-like birds
19. Johanna _ , CBC News Now meteorologist
22. Gents
25. Dr. Stanley K. _ (Canadian weight loss physician)
26. Grand _ (Istanbul marketplace)
27. Preacher's closer
29. Dietary concern
31. 'Quiet' add-on
32. PBS funding org.
33. Swiss river, variantly
35. Unpaired
37. Slugger Mel
38. "Sheesh!"
39. The way Miss Shirley doesn't spell her name
41. 1949-created intl. alliance
42. Becomes less hot: 2 wds.
47. Farm milk dispensers
49. Goose, in Italy
50. Search, security-style
51. Ranked
52. The Odyssey, and others
54. Mother-of-pearl
55. Oil holder in the kitchen
56. Does a Border Collie's work
58. _ After Shave
59. Deli breads
62. Legendary bird
63. Past
65. Elevator _

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries March 21 - April 20
If someone places an obstacle in your path your reaction will be to smash it to pieces. Such an extreme reaction could have unforeseen consequences, so find a compromise.

♉ Taurus April 21 - May 21
If you let your suspicions get the best of you you might miss out on something fun. Not everyone is out to get you or grow rich at your expense. Don't be so defensive.

♊ Gemini May 22 - June 21
It does not matter what feuds you've had in the past, it only matters now that you work together on something that you both believe in. You can do a lot of good if you join forces with like-minded people.

♋ Cancer June 22 - July 23
You can't force people to change their ways. You may try to persuade them, but they must be free to make their own mistakes. We learn most from the things we get wrong.

♌ Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Cosmic activity in the communications area of your chart means you have plenty to say for yourself. Make sure that your words are positive and progressive because a lot of people will take what you say seriously.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will have to make some unpopular decisions. Don't waste time worrying about what other people might think, just do what needs to be done.

♎ Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Mars in your sign gives you the courage to take risks but they are more likely to pay off if you allow yourself to be guided by what your inner voice is trying to tell you.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
If you do not feel comfortable then get up and leave. You must not put your own needs on hold just to make others feel good. On the contrary, your first duty is always to yourself.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You'll find it easy to get support today, let others know that what you do for yourself you'll also do for them. It may not be entirely true but if you succeed they will certainly get a share of the spoils.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You've lost your direction lately but today your aim is crystal clear: you know exactly what you are doing and why you are doing it. Make sure you don't lose sight of your target again.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You need to bring problems and worries into the open where they can be discussed and dealt with. Don't go looking to blame others and you will find it easy to reach a compromise.

♓ Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
A chapter in your life has been finished and it is time to move on. There may be one or two tears but that is natural and nothing to be ashamed of. What comes next will be much more enjoyable.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

		4	3					
		8		9				
		6			7			
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